



# State of Utah

## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

m/045/017

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### Water Quality Board

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Executive Secretary

May 3, 2000

Glenn Eurick  
Barrick Resources (USA) Inc.  
Barrick Mercur Gold Mine  
8 East Broadway, Suite 720  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111

Subject: Transmittal Letter for Permit UGW450002

Dear Mr. Eurick:

Enclosed is the Ground Water Quality Discharge Permit UGW450002 for Barrick as issued May 3, 2000. We urge you to review all of the requirements listed within the permit. Minor changes to the permit were made during the public comment period. The legislative mandated fee for this permit action, at \$60.00 per hour is \$4,920, please remit this amount within 30 days.

Should you have any questions concerning this final permit. Please contact Keith Eagan at (801) 538-6017.

Sincerely,

Fred C. Pehrson, P.E., Manager  
Permits, Compliance & Monitoring Branch

FCP:KE:bjr

cc: Tooele County Health Dept.  
DOGM

P:\WQ\PERMITS\KEAGAN\WP\BARRICK\TRNSMTL2BLTR  
FILE:BARRICK MERCUR MINE CLOSURE

RECEIVED

MAY 11 2000

DIVISION OF  
OIL, GAS AND MINING

## **STATEMENT OF BASIS**

**February 15, 2000**

### **Barrick Mercur Reclamation Project: Reservation Canyon Tailing Impoundment Permit Major Modification**

**Ground Water Quality Discharge Permit No. UGW450002**

#### **Basis For Permit Co-Joining and Renewal**

Barrick Mercur Mine operated gold mining and processing facilities at Mercur from 1982 through 1998. During this period groundwater quality discharge permit UGW450001 was obtained for Valley Fill Leach Area 3 (VFL3) and UGW450002 was obtained for the Reservation Canyon Tailing Impoundment. Also during that period the Division issued the Stipulation and Consent Order Doc. No. GW90-03-A to resolve operational issues associated with Valley Fill Leach Area 2 (VFL2). Effective April 1998, the mine entered full closure status.

UGW450001 expired in December 1999. The Consent Order for VFL2 remains in effect during the model demonstration period. UGW450002 is set to expire in 2002. In light of the closure status of the mine and the inter-relationships of the facilities discussed above, the feasibility of consolidating the groundwater permits into a single enforceable regulatory tool is deemed appropriate. This approach will both incorporate into UGW450002 the applicable terms and conditions of UGW450001 and the permit will reference the terms and conditions of Consent Order for VFL2. UGW450001 terminates with the effective date of permit modification to UGW450002. UGW450002 will expire on its current schedule to allow for permit renewal in 2002 rather than 2005. This schedule will allow the Executive Secretary to incorporate closure milestones for Mercur reclamation into the permit in a more timely fashion.

The Permittee has maintained a record of compliance with the conditions of permit UGW450001 during the permit term that expired December 1999. The Permittee has also maintained a record of compliance with the conditions of the VFL2 Consent Order and UGW450002. No adverse effects to ground water, the environment or public health are known to have occurred due to the operation of VFL3, VFL2, or the tailing impoundment during this period. Barrick will continue to transfer neutralized VFL3 draindown water and incidental seepage to the East Bay (a lined facility at the adjacent Reservation Canyon impoundment) through the end of the closure period as needed. Barrick has completed the permanent closure and reclamation of VFL3 associated with this permit as well as the complete closure of VFL2. Permit UGW450001 is incorporated into UGW450002 on the basis that 1) all ground water protection levels have been and will continue to be met; 2) the sampling, monitoring and reporting procedures are deemed adequate to determine compliance with the applicable requirements; and 3) there is no expected impairment of present or future beneficial uses of ground water.

#### **I. DESCRIPTION OF FACILITIES**

Valley Fill Leach Area No. 3 Description - Barrick Mercur Mine has operated the Valley Fill Leach Area #3 for the extraction of gold using cyanide solutions since January, 1991. The facility is now permanently closed and reclaimed. The facility is located in the

SW1/4, SW1/4, Sec 32, T.5S., R3W and the NW1/4, Sec 5, T.6S., R.3W in Mercur Canyon in the southern Oquirrh mountain range of Tooele County. The facility is limited to one cell approximately 1,700 feet long and 750 feet wide. At the end of the facility's life it contained approximately 5 million tons of spent heap leach ore with an average depth of 150 feet. The heap was neutralized during 1997 and covered during 1998. In 1997 a vertical solution dewatering well was put in place to pump in concert with the pumping cistern the remaining fluids from this leach area and transport via pumping and piping to the East Bay lined cell within the Reservation Canyon tailing impoundment. After the free draining fluids in Valley Fill Leach Area #3 achieve model-predicted flow rates the wells will be removed and final closure will be complete. Residual waters have been modeled *de minimis* as to probable impact to ground water at the property boundary.

Reservation Canyon Tailing Impoundment Facility Description - Barrick Mercur Mine operated a tailing impoundment for the disposal of waste material from the beneficiation and processing of gold from its gold milling operation. The tailing impoundment is located in Reservation Canyon in the southern Oquirrh mountain range on the Tooele/Utah County border in Section 5 of Township 6 S. and Range 3 W. The tailing facility consists of a saddle dam, main dam, upstream levee, internal East Bay lined cell, approximately 27 million tons of deposited mill tailing, and all drains and external containment ponds associated with the main dam and saddle dam. The tailing treatment system is no longer in use as the milling operation has been dismantled and removed.

Valley Fill Leach Area No. 2 Description - Barrick Mercur Mine operated the Valley Fill Leach Area #2 for the extraction of gold using cyanide solutions. The facility was closed in July 1993, was neutralized in September 1994, and covered in November 1995. The facility remains subject to the conditions of Stipulation and Consent Order No. GW-90-03-A. Those conditions remaining are ground water monitoring and dewatering of the leach pad. The facility is located in the NE1/4, Sec 8, T.6S., R3W and the SE1/4, Sec 5, T.6S., R.3W in the saddle between Manning and Mercur Canyon in the southern Oquirrh mountain range of Tooele County. The facility is limited to one cell approximately 1200 feet long and 500 feet wide. During 1998, an infiltration manhole was installed through the cover to accommodate the infiltration of incidental area flows and seepage. Currently, the remaining fluids from this leach area are transferred via pumping from the cistern and leakage collection system to the East Bay. Final cover placement on Valley Fill Leach Area #2 was completed in September 1995. During September 2000, the termination of the 5-year modeling period pursuant to the Stipulation and Consent Order, the free draining fluids in the Valley Fill Leach Area #2 leakage collection system will be compared with model-predicted flow rate estimates from the drain net layer for the fifth year following cover placement [approximately 4.6 gpm annual average] to determine when the leakage collection system can be removed and final facility closure deemed complete. Residual waters have been modeled *de minimis* as to probable impact to ground water at the property boundary. Barrick will submit a report to the Executive Secretary demonstrating compliance with the terms and conditions of the Stipulation and Consent Order and associated closure plan for VFL2, including target ranges for leakage collection flow and solution quality and all final closure activities scheduled.

## II. GROUND WATER

Class - Based on the total dissolved solids data from eleven monitoring wells at the site the ground water is defined as both Class IA and Class II. The average dissolved solids values from the wells range from 345 mg/l to 2,124 mg/l.

Background - When greater than 50% of the background samples for a particular constituent were detectable, background was determined by estimating the mean and standard deviation of all background samples.

Protection Levels - Class IA is pristine ground water. Class II ground water is protected for use as drinking water or other similar beneficial use by the Ground Water Quality Protection Regulations, UAC R317-6. Protection Levels are determined based on the criteria of R317-6.4 taking into account naturally occurring degradation in accordance with R317-6-6.10.

Ground Water Monitoring - The Permittee has installed eleven monitoring wells at the site. Dry wells are not used as compliance monitoring points under this permit. Wells MW-1, MW-2, MW-9, MW-10, MW-11, MW-13, MW-15, MW-16, MW-17, MW-18, and MW-19 will be used as compliance monitoring wells. These wells will be monitored for metals, inorganic ions, pH, cyanide, nitrate, nitrite, ammonia and total dissolved solids. Routine monitoring will be on a semiannual basis, except for well MW-13 which will be quarterly, due to a pattern of probable out of compliance scenarios owing to unique hydrologic circumstances. Reporting will be on a quarterly basis.

## III. CLOSURE AND RECLAMATION

Permanent closure and final reclamation of the Valley Fill Leach Area No. 3 and the Reservation Canyon tailing impoundment was initiated in 1998 as part of a mine-wide closure. Under previous versions of these permits, permanent closure and final reclamation requirements that are protective of ground water were incorporated. These include the following activities that have been implemented.

### TAILING IMPOUNDMENT

- Placement of perforated drainage pipes with a drain gravel cover in the concrete drainage aprons, encapsulating the gravel drains with filter fabric, and covering of drains with subsoil and top soil.
- Covering and revegetative seeding of the downstream embankments of the Main Buttress and Levee Buttress with one-foot thick layer of subsoil and a one-foot thick layer of top soil.
- Covering and revegetative seeding of the area between the Levee Buttress and the Saddle Dam.



- Design and construction of a storm water diversion channel through the Saddle Dam to permit free drainage of storm water that falls between the Levee Buttress and the Saddle Dam.
- Regrading crest height of the Buttress Embankment rockfill onto the tailings beach leaving a normal six-foot high interim rockfill berm above the tailings surface for storm water control and freeboard.
- Placement of cover system over the tailing surface along levee and main dam interior surfaces.
- Installation of a incidental area flows and seepage pipeline connection to an infiltration manhole in the Valley Fill Leach Area No. 2 facility.
- Upgrading existing, and construction of additional interim storm water diversion channels.

#### VALLEY FILL LEACH AREA 3

- Dismantling and removal of process facilities.
- Implementation of permanent closure and final reclamation by regrading, recontouring, shaping, placement of a soil cover system (3 feet of subsoil and 1 foot of top soil) and revegetative seeding of the Valley Fill Leach Area #3 facility.

#### VALLEY FILL LEACH AREA 2

- Dismantling and removal of process facilities.
- Completion of contouring, shaping, placement of a soil cover system 93 feet of subsoil and 1 foot of top soil) and revegetative seeding of the Valley Fill Leach Area No. 2 facility.

As-built documentation of the 1998 tailing final reclamation activities was required and has been submitted and is on file for review. As-built documentation for the 1999 tailing reclamation will be submitted in April 2000. All documentation for the final closure of VFL2 and VFL3 were previously submitted and are on file for review.

**STATE OF UTAH  
DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
P.O. BOX - 16690  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84116-0690**

**Ground Water Quality Discharge Permit  
Permit No.: UGW450002**

In compliance with the provisions of the Utah Water Pollution Control Act, Title 19, Chapter 5, Utah Code Annotated 1953, as amended,

**Barrick Resources (USA) Inc.  
Mercur Mine Reclamation Project  
8 East Broadway, Suite 720  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

is granted a Ground Water Quality Discharge Permit for the Mercur Mine Reclamation Project located at latitude 40° 20' 00" North, longitude 112° 12' 30" West in accordance with conditions set forth herein.

This modified Ground Water Quality Discharge Permit amends and supersedes all other Ground Water Discharge permits for this facility issued previously. Specifically, this Ground Water Quality Discharge Permit incorporates all provisions of UGW450001, and references Stipulation and Consent Order GW-90-030A

This modified permit shall become effective on May 3, 2000.

This permit and the authorization to operate shall expire at midnight, August 4, 2002.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Secretary  
Water Quality Board

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#### APPENDICIES

I. SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

A. Ground Water Classification

Based on ground water data submitted by the Permittee, ground water at the Mercur site is generally defined as Class II, with the exception of the aquifers near monitoring wells MW-9 at Valley Fill Leach Area 2 (VFL2) and MW-17 at the tailing impoundment that are defined as Class IA.

B. Background Ground Water Quality

Background For Monitoring Wells - Based on the chemical characteristics of samples taken from monitoring wells MW-1, MW-2, MW-9, MW-10, MW-11, MW-13, MW-15, MW-16, MW-17 MW-18 and MW-19, background ground water quality is defined in Table 1.

C. Ground Water Protection Levels

1. Protection Levels for Existing Wells - Ground water quality at monitoring wells MW-1, MW-2, MW-9, MW-10, MW-11, MW-13, MW-15, MW-16, MW-17, MW-18 and MW-19 shall not exceed the ground water protection levels defined in Table 1.
2. Compliance Determination Method - Compliance with ground water protection levels shall be accomplished by the use of eleven compliance monitoring wells. If future monitoring data indicate an exceedance of protection levels compliance status will be determined in accordance with R317-6.6.17 including if necessary reference to methods described in the EPA Interim Final Guidance Documents entitled "Statistical Analysis of Ground Water Monitoring Data at RCRA Facilities", dated February, 1989 and the July 1992 draft addendum to the Interim Final Guidance. Subsequent updates of this document shall be utilized as available and appropriate.

D. Valley Fill Leach Area 3 (VFL3) Post-Closure Requirements

1. No Discharge Technology - the Valley Fill Leach Area 3 facility as constructed incorporates no-discharge technology through the use of a composite liner consisting of a synthetic flexible membrane/clay/synthetic flexible membrane liner system. The reclamation cover design meets BAT. Barrick will monitor the head of the wastewater through the term of the the permit and maintain the head such that the head will not exceed 25 feet above the lowest point on the upper flexible membrane liner.

2. Spill Containment - Barrick shall design, maintain and construct all pipelines from the Valley Fill Leach Area 3 facility that shall:
  - a) Prevent any spills or leakage from the pipeline from coming into contact with the ground surface or ground water.
  - b) Convey all spills or leakage to the East Bay, Valley Fill Leach No. 3 or other containment mechanisms approved by the Executive Secretary. Affected structures include any associated pipeage, valves, pumps or other ancillary equipment. The design and construction of the spill containment systems shall be maintained to meet the requirements of the Construction Permit issued July 13, 1990, by the Executive Secretary.
3. Valley Fill Leach No. 3 Permanent Closure Plan - The Approved Final Closure Plan is an enforceable appendix to this permit. It is designated as Appendix B to this permit.

E. Valley Fill Leach Area No. 2 Post-Closure Compliance Requirements

1. Ground Water Monitoring - Barrick is required to continue ground water quality monitoring of existing monitoring well MW-9 at VFL2 on a semiannual basis in accordance with the post-closure monitoring plan, attached as Appendix C to this permit. Ground water sampling must include all the chemical parameters, methods, and procedures required by the QA/QC plan contained in Appendix A to this permit. Barrick shall submit the results of semiannual monitoring to the Executive Secretary in accordance with the compliance monitoring schedule shown in Table 2.
2. Post Closure Monitoring - The approved plans and specifications for the recontouring and covering of Valley Fill Leach No. 2 approved on May 30, 1995 by the Executive Secretary is subject to the following conditions:
  - a) Barrick will maintain the vegetated cover in accordance with the approved Final Closure Plan and compliance schedule for post-closure monitoring, attached as Appendix C, and methods and standards approved by the DOGM.
  - b) The Valley Fill Leach No. 2 leakage collection system shall not be removed without the written consent of the Executive Secretary. The leakage collection system shall not be disturbed by the construction activity and shall remain in operation to intercept leachate for a minimum of five years (through September 2000) following the placement of the final cover.



- c) At the end of five years the flow and quality data from the leakage collection system will be evaluated to determine if the quality and flow are within the range predicted by the Infiltration and Solute Transport Analysis [4.6 gpm], Valley Fill Leach Area 2, prepared for Barrick by Dames and Moore during April 1995. This modeling constitutes the basis for the closure design and reflects BAT. If actual leakage collection fluid quantity is significantly greater than predicted by the modeling, or if the concentrations of contaminants increase substantially, then the suitability of the topsoil/vegetated cover will be reevaluated. During the five-year period (September 1995 to September 2000), Barrick will manage leakage collection system fluids in accordance with the Final Closure Plan and compliance schedule for post-closure monitoring, attached as Appendix C. The plan requires that all leakage collection flows during this period shall be pumped to the tailing impoundment (now considered to be the East Bay).
  - d) Barrick shall comply with the approved plan and compliance schedule for post-closure monitoring of VFL2 approved by the Executive Secretary. Ground water monitoring shall be limited to the existing monitoring well MW-9 at VFL2. The approved plan and compliance schedule for post-closure monitoring is included as Appendix C to this permit. Barrick shall execute and complete the post-closure activities at VFL2 in compliance with the approved time frames and schedule. Barrick will submit a report to the Executive Secretary demonstrating compliance with the terms and conditions of the Stipulation and Consent Order and associated closure plan for VFL2, including target ranges for flow and solution quality and final closure activities scheduled.
3. Spill Containment – Barrick will convey all spills or leakage to the tailing impoundment, Valley Fill Leach No. 2 or other containment mechanisms approved by the Executive Secretary. Affected structures include any associated piping, valves, pumps or other ancillary equipment.

**TABLE 1 - Compliance Monitoring Well Background and Protection Levels**

Parameter	Method detection limit	Ground water quality standard	Monitoring Well MW-1				Monitoring Well MW-2				Monitoring Well MW-9			
			Background Level(mg/L)		Protection Level (mg/L)	Compliance Level (mg/L)	Background Level(mg/L)		Protection Level (mg/L)	Compliance Level (mg/L)	Background Level(mg/L)		Protection Level (mg/L)	Compliance Level (mg/L)
			Mean	stddev			mean	stddev			mean	stddev		
PH (units)	n/a	6.5-8.5	8.08	n/a	6.5-8.5	6.5-8.5	7.98	n/a	6.5-8.5	6.5-8.5	7.40	N/a	6.5-8.5	6.5-8.5
Arsenic	.01	0.05	ND	n/a	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	0.013	ND	n/a	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	0.013	ND	N/a	.01b	.01
Barium	.01	2.0	0.064	0.039	0.5 <sup>b</sup>	0.5	0.037	0.047	0.5 <sup>b</sup>	0.5	0.016	0.011	0.2 <sup>b</sup>	0.2
Cadmium	.002	0.005	ND	n/a	0.002 <sup>c</sup>	0.002	ND	n/a	0.002 <sup>c</sup>	0.002	ND	N/a	0.002 <sup>c</sup>	0.002
Chromium	.01	0.1	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025	ND	N/a	0.01 <sup>b</sup>	0.01
Copper	.01	1.3	0.041 <sup>1</sup>	n/a	0.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.33	0.041 <sup>1</sup>	n/a	0.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.33	ND	N/a	0.13 <sup>b</sup>	0.13
Lead	.005	0.015	ND	n/a	0.005 <sup>c</sup>	0.005	ND	n/a	0.005 <sup>c</sup>	0.005	ND	N/a	0.005 <sup>c</sup>	0.005
Mercury	.0002	0.002	ND	n/a	0.0005 <sup>b</sup>	0.0005	ND	n/a	0.0005 <sup>b</sup>	0.0005	ND	N/a	0.0002 <sup>b,c</sup>	0.0002
Nickel	.01	0.1	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025	ND	N/a	0.01	0.01
Selenium	.002	0.05	ND	n/a	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	0.013	ND	n/a	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	0.013	ND	N/a	0.005	0.005
Silver	.01	0.1	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025	ND	N/a	0.01	0.01
Thallium	.001	0.002	ND	n/a	0.001 <sup>c</sup>	0.001	ND	n/a	0.001 <sup>c</sup>	0.001	ND	N/a	0.001 <sup>c</sup>	0.001
Zinc	.01	5.0	0.051 <sup>1</sup>	n/a	1.25 <sup>b</sup>	1.25	0.031 <sup>1</sup>	n/a	1.25 <sup>b</sup>	1.25	.020	N/a	0.5 <sup>b</sup>	0.5
Cyanide-free	.002	0.2	ND	n/a	0.05 <sup>b</sup>	0.05	ND	n/a	0.05 <sup>b</sup>	0.05	ND	N/a	0.02 <sup>b</sup>	0.02
Fluoride	.1	4.0	1.94	0.15	2.43 <sup>a</sup>	2.43	0.96	0.11	1.20 <sup>a</sup>	1.20	0.71	0.06	0.78 <sup>b</sup>	0.83 <sup>d</sup>
Nitrate-N	.02	10.0	0.049	0.128	2.5 <sup>b</sup>	2.5	0.055	0.195	2.5 <sup>b</sup>	2.5	0.15	N/a	1.0 <sup>b</sup>	1.0
Nitrite-N	.005	1.0	0.011 <sup>1</sup>	n/a	0.25 <sup>b</sup>	0.25	0.012 <sup>1</sup>	n/a	0.25 <sup>b</sup>	0.25	0.006	N/a	0.1 <sup>b</sup>	0.1
Sulfate	5.0	n/a	60.5	42.7	Monitoring only	n/a	199.2	22.4	Monitoring only	n/a	87	22	Monitoring only	n/a
TDS	5.0	3000	516	19	645 <sup>a</sup>	645	905	108	1131 <sup>a</sup>	1131	469	54	577 <sup>e</sup>	577 <sup>e</sup>

1-Background for these parameters was determined by averaging the detectable values since the background data set was greater than 50% non-detect (ND), therefore standard deviation not applicable.

a-Protection Level established based on 1.X times the mean background concentration, where X = 0.25 except for MW-9 and MW-17 where X = 0.10. b-Protection Level established based on 0.X times the Ground Water Quality Standard, where X = 0.25 except for MW-9 and MW-17 where X = 0.10. c-Protection Level established at the reported method minimum detection limit. d-Compliance Level based on mean + 2 standard deviations. e- Compliance Level based on maximum allowable TDS concentration for Class IA, R317-6-4.2.B.1 f-mean + 2Stddev \* Amended January, 1997 and June 1999



TABLE 1 (continued)-Compliance Monitoring Well Background and Protection Levels

Parameter	method detectio n limit	ground water quality standard	Monitoring Well MW-10				Monitoring Well MW-11				Monitoring Well MW-13			
			Background		Protection		Background		Protection		Background		Protection	
			Level(mg/L)	mean	Level(mg/L)	stddev	Level(mg/L)	Mean	Level(mg/L)	Stddev	Level(mg/L)	Mean	Level(mg/L)	Stddev
pH (units)	n/a	6.5-8.5		7.55	n/a	n/a	6.5-8.5	6.5-8.5	7.83	n/a	6.5-8.5	7.45	6.5-8.5	n/a
Arsenic	.01	0.05		nd	n/a	n/a	.013 <sup>b</sup>	.013 <sup>b</sup>	Nd	n/a	.013 <sup>b</sup>	Nd	.013 <sup>b</sup>	n/a
Barium	.01	2.0		.041	.037	.5 <sup>b</sup>	.5 <sup>b</sup>	.041	.037	.037	.5 <sup>b</sup>	.076	.5 <sup>b</sup>	.032
Cadmium	.002	0.005		nd	n/a	.002 <sup>c</sup>	.002 <sup>c</sup>	Nd	n/a	n/a	.002 <sup>c</sup>	nd	.002 <sup>c</sup>	n/a
Chromium	.01	0.1		nd	n/a	.025 <sup>b</sup>	.025 <sup>b</sup>	Nd	n/a	n/a	.025 <sup>b</sup>	nd	.025 <sup>b</sup>	n/a
Copper	.01	1.3		.0441 <sup>1</sup>	n/a	.325 <sup>b</sup>	.325 <sup>b</sup>	.032 <sup>1</sup>	n/a	n/a	.325 <sup>b</sup>	nd	.325 <sup>b</sup>	n/a
Lead	.005	0.015		nd	n/a	.005 <sup>c</sup>	.005 <sup>c</sup>	Nd	n/a	n/a	.005 <sup>c</sup>	nd	.005 <sup>c</sup>	n/a
Mercury	.0002	0.002		nd	n/a	.0005 <sup>b</sup>	.0005 <sup>b</sup>	Nd	n/a	n/a	.0005 <sup>b</sup>	nd	.0005 <sup>b</sup>	n/a
Nickel	.01	0.1		.026	.025	.033 <sup>a</sup>	.076 <sup>d</sup>	.011	.021	.021	.025 <sup>a</sup>	nd	.025 <sup>a</sup>	n/a
Selenium	.002	0.05		nd	n/a	.013 <sup>b</sup>	.013 <sup>b</sup>	Nd	n/a	n/a	.013 <sup>b</sup>	nd	.013 <sup>b</sup>	n/a
Silver	.01	0.1		nd	n/a	.025 <sup>b</sup>	.025 <sup>b</sup>	Nd	n/a	n/a	.025 <sup>b</sup>	nd	.025 <sup>b</sup>	n/a
Thallium	.001	0.002		nd	n/a	.001 <sup>c</sup>	.001 <sup>c</sup>	Nd	n/a	n/a	.001 <sup>c</sup>	nd	.001 <sup>c</sup>	n/a
Zinc	.01	5.0		.118	.045	1.25 <sup>b</sup>	1.25 <sup>b</sup>	.039	.030	.030	1.25 <sup>b</sup>	.025 <sup>1</sup>	1.25 <sup>b</sup>	n/a
Cyanide-free	.002	0.2		nd	n/a	.05 <sup>b</sup>	.05 <sup>b</sup>	Nd	n/a	n/a	.05 <sup>b</sup>	nd	.05 <sup>b</sup>	n/a
Fluoride	.1	4.0		.787	.167	1.0 <sup>b</sup>	1.12 <sup>d</sup>	.671	.076	.076	1.0 <sup>b</sup>	.500	1.0 <sup>b</sup>	.089
Nitrate-N	.02	10.0		.074	.114	2.5 <sup>b</sup>	2.5 <sup>b</sup>	.952	.535	.535	2.5 <sup>b</sup>	.197 <sup>1</sup>	2.5 <sup>b</sup>	n/a
Nitrite-N	.005	1.0		.009	.005	.25 <sup>b</sup>	.25 <sup>b</sup>	.012	.007	.007	.25 <sup>b</sup>	.007	.25 <sup>b</sup>	.005
Sulfate	5.0	n/a		339	50	Monitor Only	monitor only	126	39	39	monitor only	308	monitor only	28
TDS	5.0	3000		1106	76	1383 <sup>a</sup>	1383 <sup>a</sup>	618	37	37	773 <sup>a</sup>	2124	2655 <sup>d</sup>	220

1-Background for these parameters was determined by averaging the detectable values since the background data set was greater than 50% non-detect (ND), therefore standard deviation not applicable.

a-Protection Level established based on 1.X times the mean background concentration, where X = 0.25 except for MW-9 and MW-17 where X = 0.10.

b-Protection Level established based on 0.X times the Ground Water Quality Standard, where X = 0.25 except for MW-9 and MW-17 where X = 0.10.

c-Protection Level established at the reported method minimum detection limit.

d-Compliance Level based on mean + 2 standard deviations.

e-Compliance Level based on maximum allowable TDS concentration for Class IA, R317-6-4.2.B.1



**TABLE 1 (continued)-Compliance Monitoring Well Background and Protection Levels**

Parameter	Method detection limit	ground water quality standard	Monitoring Well MW-15				Monitoring Well MW-16				Monitoring Well MW-17		
			Background Level(mg/l)		Protection Level (mg/l)	Compliance Level (mg/L)	Background Level(mg/L)		Protection Level (mg/L)	Compliance Level (mg/L)	Background Level(mg/L)	Protection Level (mg/L)	Compliance Level (mg/L)
			Mean	stddev			mean	stddev			mean	stddev	
pH (units)	n/a	6.5-8.5	7.70	n/a	6.5-8.5	6.5-8.5	7.82	n/a	6.5-8.5	6.5-8.5	7.44	n/a	6.5-8.5
Arsenic	.01	0.05	ND	n/a	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	0.013	ND	n/a	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	ND	n/a	0.01 <sup>c</sup>
Barium	.01	2.0	0.070	0.019	0.5 <sup>b</sup>	0.5	0.053	0.046	0.5 <sup>b</sup>	0.5 <sup>b</sup>	0.038	0.007	0.2 <sup>b</sup>
Cadmium	.002	0.005	ND	n/a	0.002 <sup>c</sup>	0.002	ND	n/a	0.002 <sup>c</sup>	0.002 <sup>c</sup>	ND	n/a	0.002 <sup>c</sup>
Chromium	.01	0.1	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	ND	n/a	0.01 <sup>b</sup>
Copper	.01	1.3	ND	n/a	0.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.33	ND	n/a	0.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.33 <sup>b</sup>	ND	n/a	0.13 <sup>b</sup>
Lead	.005	0.015	ND	n/a	0.005 <sup>c</sup>	0.005	ND	n/a	0.005 <sup>c</sup>	0.005 <sup>c</sup>	ND	n/a	0.005 <sup>c</sup>
Mercury	.0002	0.002	ND	n/a	0.0005 <sup>b</sup>	0.0005	ND	n/a	0.0005 <sup>b</sup>	0.0005 <sup>b</sup>	ND	n/a	0.0002 <sup>b,c</sup>
Nickel	.01	0.1	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	ND	n/a	0.01 <sup>b,c</sup>
Selenium	.002	0.05	ND	n/a	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	0.013	ND	n/a	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	ND	n/a	0.005 <sup>b</sup>
Silver	.01	0.1	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	ND	n/a	0.01 <sup>b,c</sup>
Thallium	.001	0.002	ND	n/a	0.001 <sup>c</sup>	0.001	ND	n/a	0.001 <sup>c</sup>	0.001 <sup>c</sup>	ND	n/a	0.001 <sup>c</sup>
Zinc	.01	5.0	0.019 <sup>d</sup>	n/a	1.25 <sup>b</sup>	1.25	0.024 <sup>d</sup>	n/a	1.25 <sup>b</sup>	1.25 <sup>b</sup>	0.078 <sup>d</sup>	n/a	0.5 <sup>b</sup>
Cyanide-free	.002	0.2	ND	n/a	0.05 <sup>b</sup>	0.05	ND	n/a	0.05 <sup>b</sup>	0.05 <sup>b</sup>	ND	n/a	0.02 <sup>b</sup>
Fluoride	.1	4.0	0.31	0.07	1.0 <sup>b</sup>	1.0	0.26	0.08	1.0 <sup>b</sup>	1.0 <sup>b</sup>	0.15	0.02	0.4 <sup>b</sup>
Nitrate-N	.02	10.0	0.110	0.223	2.5 <sup>b</sup>	2.5	1.11	0.46	2.5 <sup>b</sup>	2.5 <sup>b</sup>	0.47	0.33	1.0 <sup>b</sup>
Nitrite-N	.005	1.0	0.009	0.006	0.25 <sup>b</sup>	0.25	0.011	0.005	0.25 <sup>b</sup>	0.25 <sup>b</sup>	0.007 <sup>d</sup>	n/a	0.1 <sup>b</sup>
Sulfate	5.0	n/a	235	22	monitoring only	n/a	306	28	Monitoring only	monitoring only	34	11	monitoring only
TDS	5.0	3000	995	54	1244 <sup>a</sup>	1244	883	62	1104 <sup>a</sup>	1104 <sup>a</sup>	345	30	380 <sup>a</sup>

1-Background for these parameters was determined by averaging the detectable values since the background data set was greater than 50% non-detect (ND), therefore standard deviation not applicable.

a-Protection Level established based on 1.25 times the mean background concentration. b-Protection Level established based on 0.25 times the Ground Water Quality Standard.

c-Protection Level established at the reported method minimum detection limit. d-Compliance Level based on mean + 2 standard deviations. \* Amended January, 1997 and June 1999

e- Compliance Level based on maximum allowable TDS concentration for Class IA, R317-6.4.2.B.1

### TABLE 1 (continued)-Compliance Monitoring Well Background and Protection Levels

			Monitoring Well MW-18				Monitoring Well MW-19			
Parameter	Method detection limit	ground water quality standard	Background		Protection Level (mg/L)	Compliance Level (mg/L)	Background		Protection Level (mg/l)	Compliance Level (mg/L)
			Level(mg/l)	Stddev			Level(mg/l)	stddev		
pH (units)	n/a	6.5-8.5	7.37	n/a	6.5-8.5	6.5-8.5	7.42	n/a	6.5-8.5	6.5-8.5
Arsenic	.01	0.05	ND	n/a	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	nd	n/a	.013 <sup>b</sup>	.013 <sup>b</sup>
Barium	.01	2.0	0.066	0.058	0.5 <sup>b</sup>	0.5 <sup>b</sup>	.027	.011	.5 <sup>b</sup>	.5 <sup>b</sup>
Cadmium	.002	0.005	ND	n/a	0.002 <sup>c</sup>	0.002 <sup>c</sup>	nd	n/a	.002 <sup>c</sup>	.002 <sup>c</sup>
Chromium	.01	0.1	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	nd	n/a	.025 <sup>b</sup>	.025 <sup>b</sup>
Copper	.01	1.3	ND	n/a	0.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.33 <sup>b</sup>	nd	n/a	.325 <sup>b</sup>	.325 <sup>b</sup>
Lead	.005	0.015	ND	n/a	0.005 <sup>c</sup>	0.005 <sup>c</sup>	nd	n/a	.005 <sup>c</sup>	.005 <sup>c</sup>
Mercury	.0002	0.002	ND	n/a	0.0005 <sup>b</sup>	0.0005 <sup>b</sup>	nd	n/a	.0005 <sup>b</sup>	.0005 <sup>b</sup>
Nickel	.01	0.1	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	nd	n/a	.025 <sup>b</sup>	.025 <sup>b</sup>
Selenium	.002	0.05	ND	n/a	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	0.013 <sup>b</sup>	nd	n/a	.013 <sup>b</sup>	.013 <sup>b</sup>
Silver	.01	0.1	ND	n/a	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	0.025 <sup>b</sup>	nd	n/a	.025 <sup>b</sup>	.025 <sup>b</sup>
Thallium	.001	0.002	<.01	n/a	0.001 <sup>b</sup>	0.001 <sup>b</sup>	nd	n/a	.001 <sup>c</sup>	.001 <sup>c</sup>
Zinc	.01	5.0	0.058	n/a	1.25 <sup>b</sup>	1.25 <sup>b</sup>	.013	.024	1.25 <sup>b</sup>	1.25 <sup>b</sup>
Cyanide-free	.002	0.2	ND	n/a	0.05 <sup>b</sup>	0.05 <sup>b</sup>	nd	n/a	.05 <sup>b</sup>	.05 <sup>b</sup>
Fluoride	.1	4.0	0.17	0.07	1.0 <sup>b</sup>	1.0 <sup>b</sup>	1.10	.03	1.38 <sup>a</sup>	1.38 <sup>a</sup>
Nitrate-N	.02	10.0	0.52	0.19	2.5 <sup>b</sup>	2.5 <sup>b</sup>	.034	.047	2.5 <sup>b</sup>	2.5 <sup>b</sup>
Nitrite-N	.005	1.0	0.006	n/a	0.25 <sup>b</sup>	0.25 <sup>b</sup>	.006 <sup>c</sup>	n/a	.25 <sup>b</sup>	.25 <sup>b</sup>
Sulfate	5.0	n/a	183	13	Monitoring only	monitoring only	276	10	monitor only	monitor only
TDS	5.0	3000	654	78	818 <sup>a</sup>	818 <sup>a</sup>	901	50	1128 <sup>a</sup>	1128 <sup>a</sup>

Background for these parameters was determined by averaging the detectable values since the background data set was greater than 50% non-detect (ND), therefore standard deviation not applicable.

**1.1-Background** for these parameters was determined by averaging the detectable values since the background data set was greater than 50% non-detect (ND), therefore standard deviation was not calculated.

a-Protection Level established based on 1.25 times the mean background concentration. b-Protection Level established based on 0.25 times the mean background concentration. c-Protection Level established based on mean + 2 standard deviations. d-Protection Level established at the reported method minimum detection limit.

c-Protection Level established at the reported method minimum detection limit. d-Compliance Level based on mean + 2 standard deviations. e-Compliance Level based on maximum allowable TDS concentration for Class IA, R317-6-4.2.B.1 \* Amended January, 1997 and June 1999



F. Tailing Wastewater Treatment Discharge

1. Authorized Discharge - During the term of this permit the Permittee is authorized to store, detain and recover storm water runoff from the area immediately surrounding and naturally draining into and from the tailing impoundment and to receive draindown quantities of water pumped from Valley Fill Leach Areas Nos. 2 and 3. If spills of unauthorized chemicals, fuels or other materials enter the tailing impoundment the Permittee shall notify the Executive Secretary within 24 hours and provide written notification within 5 business days, in accordance with the requirements of Part II.I. Incidental seepage emanating from the reclaim cell and the saddle seep area formerly collected in the saddle seepage pond in Manning Canyon will be conveyed through piping constructed by Barrick during 1998 and infiltrated through an infiltration manhole constructed within the engineered cover over reclaimed Valley Fill Leach No. 2.
2. East Bay - The lined facility has a capacity of approximately 70 million gallons. The pond is designed and authorized to receive wastewater from the tailing impoundment in order to accelerate dewatering and drying of the tailing surface during final closure and reclamation of the facility or wastewater treatment if necessary and as approved by the Executive Secretary.
3. Lined Chimney Drain Ponds - A regular inspection shall be made of the fluid levels in the chimney drain storage pond and overflow pond. If at any time the fluid levels exceed 1/3 the capacity of either of these ponds, the fluids contained therein shall be pumped into the tailing impoundment or East Bay. Pumping shall continue until the ponds are as empty as the pumping system will allow. All pipelines between these ponds and the tailing impoundment or East Bay shall be properly evacuated following each use to prevent freeze up. The entire pumping system shall be continuously maintained in operable condition.
4. Spill Containment - Barrick shall utilize best management practices intended to prevent and contain spills from occurring from any of the following structures: 1) pipelines between Valley Fill Leach Area No. 3 and the tailing impoundment, 2) pipelines between Valley Fill Leach Area 2 and the tailing impoundment and 3) the lined chimney drain storage pond and overflow pond and the East Bay. The practices shall conform to the following criteria:



- a). Prevent any spills of untreated tailing wastewater, leakage or overflow from contact with unlined ground surfaces, ground water or surface water runoff conveyance systems (ditches, streams, etc).
  - b). Convey all spills or leakage to the tailing impoundment East Bay, or new containment mechanisms or treatment facilities approved by the Executive Secretary.
5. Cover design and placement will be in accordance with the final closure plan document and according to the design and methods approved in the 1999 Construction Permit approved by the Division of Water Quality.
  6. Incidental Flow Management – Management of these flows will be in accordance with the Post-Closure Management of the Reservation Canyon Tailing Impoundment Incidental Flows Report, dated December 1997, a report to be submitted in 2000 updating and finalizing the 1997 report (Appendix E), and the final construction quality assurance report to be submitted within 180 days of the final closure of the impoundment.

G. Compliance Monitoring Requirements

1. Quality Assurance Project Plan - All water quality monitoring to be conducted under this permit shall be conducted in accordance with the general requirements, hereunder, and the specific requirements of Quality Assurance Project Plan, dated October 1, 1998, attached as Appendix A to this permit.
2. Compliance Monitoring Wells - The permittee has installed six monitoring wells at the tailing impoundment, four wells at Valley Fill Leach Area No. 3, and one well at Valley Fill Leach Area No. 2. All eleven wells will be used as compliance monitoring points through the life of the permit unless modified by the Executive Secretary. Barrick shall maintain its current ground water monitoring well network in compliance with the requirements of this permit. The locations of these wells are described below.
  - a) Compliance Monitoring Well MW-1 - NE/4 OF SE/4 of NE/4 of section 5 T. 6 S. R. 3 W 150 ft. west, 1470 ft. south of NE corner.
  - b) Compliance Monitoring Well MW-2 - NE/4 of SE/4 of NE/4 of section 5 T. 6 S. R. 3 W. 170 ft. west, 1670 ft. south of NE corner.

- c) Compliance Monitoring Well MW-9 - SE/4 OF SE/4 of SE/4 of section 5 T. 5 S. R. 3 W 4400 ft. west, 100 ft. north of SW corner.
  - d) Compliance Monitoring Well MW-10 - SW/4 OF SW/4 of SW/4 of section 32 T. 5 S. R. 3 W 50 ft. north, 810 ft. west of SW corner.
  - e) Compliance Monitoring Well MW-11 - NW/4 OF SW/4 of SW/4 of section 32 T. 5 S. R. 3 W 700 ft. north, 310 ft. east of SW corner.
  - f) Compliance Monitoring Well MW-13 - NW/4 OF NW/4 of NW/4 of section 5 T. 6 S. R. 3 W 740 ft. east, 480 ft. south of NW corner.
  - g) Compliance Monitoring Well MW-15 - SE/4 of SW/4 of SE/4 of section 32 T. 5 S. R 3 W. 1750 ft. west, 140 ft. north of SE corner.
  - h) Compliance Monitoring Well MW-16 - NE/4 of NE/4 of NE/4 of section 5 T. 6 S. R. 3 W. 410 ft. west, 40 ft. south of NE corner.
  - i) Compliance Monitoring Well MW-17 - State plane coordinates 728,844.51 N., 1,807,822.13 W.
  - j) Compliance Monitoring Well MW-18 - State plane coordinates 729,671.55 N., 1,806,786.28 W.
  - k) Compliance Monitoring Well MW-19 - NE/4 OF NW/4 of NW/4 of section 5 T. 6 S. R. 3 W 240 ft. south, 700 ft. east of NW corner.
3. Future Modification of the Monitoring Well Network - if at any time the Executive Secretary determines the monitoring well network to be inadequate, Barrick shall submit within 30 days of receipt of notification, a response to the Executive Secretary letter, and if necessary, a plan and compliance schedule to modify the monitoring well network. Any required monitoring well construction shall conform to the criteria found in the EPA RCRA Ground Water Monitoring Technical Enforcement Guidance Document, 1986, OSWER-9950.1 (RCRA TEGD). Subsequent updates to this document shall be utilized as available and appropriate.
4. Compliance Monitoring Period - Monitoring commenced upon the completion of the monitoring systems required by this permit, and shall continue through the life of the permit.

5. Protection of Monitoring Well Network - All compliance monitoring wells must be protected from damage due to surface vehicular traffic or other dangers or contamination due to surface spills. They shall be maintained in full operational condition for the life of this permit. Any well that becomes damaged beyond repair or is rendered unusable for any reason will be replaced by the Permittee within 90 days or as directed by the Executive Secretary.
6. Barrick shall notify and request approval from the Executive Secretary in writing of any planned well abandonment or modification. Well abandonment shall comply with State Engineer regulations.
7. Ground Water Quality Monitoring Frequency and Procedure Requirements
  - a) Ground Water Level Measurements - Ground water level measurements shall be made in each monitoring well prior to any collection of ground water samples. These measurements will be made from a permanent single reference point clearly demarcated on the top of the well or surface casing. Measurements will be made to the nearest 0.01 foot.
  - b) Ground Water Monitoring Frequency - groundwater measurements and analysis shall be conducted on a semi-annual basis for all eleven monitoring wells, except monitor well MW-13 which will be quarterly. Semi-annual monitoring will be conducted during the first and third quarters during odd numbered years and during the second and fourth quarters during even numbered years. Monitoring will be reported to the Executive Secretary as per the requirements stipulated in Part I.I.1.
  - c) Ground Water Quality Sampling - grab samples of ground water from all compliance monitoring wells will be collected for chemical analysis, in conformance with the Quality Assurance Project Plan that has been approved by the Executive Secretary, Part I.J.1.
    - 1) Analysis by Certified Laboratories - analysis of any ground water sample shall be performed by laboratories certified by the State Health Laboratory.
    - 2) Ground Water Analytical Methods - methods used to analyze ground water samples must comply with the following:

6.

- i) All methods cited in UAC R317-6-6.3A(13), and
  - ii) Have detection limits which are less than or equal to the ground water protection levels found in Part I C, Table 1. In the case of cadmium, cyanide (total) and nickel, the detection limits shall be less than or equal to 0.002 mg/l, 0.02 mg/l and 0.015 mg/l, respectively.
- 3) Analysis Parameters - the following analyses shall be conducted on all ground water samples collected:
- i) Field Parameters - pH, temperature, and specific conductance
  - ii) Laboratory Parameters - including:
    - Major Anions and Cations: including chloride, sulfate, carbonate, bicarbonate, sodium, potassium, magnesium and calcium.
    - Protection Level Parameters - found in Table 1 of Part I C, above.
    - Weak Acid Dissociable Cyanide
    - Cyanide Amenable to Chlorination
    - Cyanide Degradation Products, including: ammonia, nitrate and nitrite.

H. Non-Compliance Status

1. Probable Out-of-Compliance Based on Exceedance of Ground Water Protection Limits

Barrick shall evaluate the results of each round of ground water sampling and analysis to determine any exceedance of the ground water protection levels found in Table 1. Upon determination by Barrick that the data indicate a ground water protection level may have been exceeded at any downgradient compliance monitoring well, Barrick shall:

- a) Immediately resample the monitoring well(s) found to be in probable out-of-compliance, for the protection level parameters that have been exceeded. Submit the analytical results thereof, and

notify the Executive Secretary of the probable out-of-compliance status within 30 days of the determination of probable out-of-compliance.

- b) Immediately implement an accelerated schedule of monthly ground water sampling and analysis, consistent with the requirements of Part I G 6(c). This monthly sampling will continue for at least two additional months for a total of three samples including the original compliance sample or until the compliance status can be determined by the Executive Secretary. Reports of the results of this sampling will be submitted to the Executive Secretary as soon as they are available, but not later than 30 days from each date of sampling.

2. Out-of-Compliance Status Based on Confirmed Exceedance of Permit Ground Water Protection Limits

- a) Out of Compliance Status shall be defined as follows:
  - 1) For parameters that have been defined as detectable in the background and for which protection levels have been established based on 1.25 or 1.10 times the mean background concentration. Out-of-compliance shall be determined by the use of control charts for intra-well comparisons in accordance with an EPA document entitled "Statistical Analysis of Ground Water Monitoring Data at RCRA Facilities", February, 1989. Any other compliance monitoring or statistical method used by Barrick must receive prior approval from the Executive Secretary.
  - 2) For parameters that have been defined as detectable in the background and for which protection levels have been established based on 0.25 times the ground water quality standard, out-of-compliance shall be defined as 3 consecutive samples exceeding the protection level and the mean background concentration by two standard deviations.
  - 3) For parameters that have background data sets between 50-85% non-detectable analyses, out-of-compliance shall be defined as 3 consecutive samples from a compliance monitoring point exceeding the established protection level.

- 4) For parameters that have been defined non-detectable in the background and for which protection limits have been determined based on 0.25 or 0.10 times the ground water quality standard or the limit of detection out-of-compliance shall be defined as 3 consecutive samples from a compliance monitoring point exceeding the established protection limit.
- b) Notification and Accelerated Monitoring - upon determination by the permittee or the Executive Secretary, in accordance with UAC R317-6-6.17, that an out-of-compliance status exists, the permittee shall:
  - 1) Verbally notify the Executive Secretary of the out-of-compliance status or acknowledge Executive Secretary notice that such a status exists within 24 hours of determination, and
  - 2) Provide written notice within 5 business days of the determination, and
  - 3) Continue the accelerated schedule of monthly ground water monitoring until the facility is brought into compliance.
- c) Source and Contamination Assessment Study Plan - within 30 days of the verbal notice to the Executive Secretary required in Part I.H.2(b), above, the permittee shall submit an assessment study plan and compliance schedule for:
  - 1) Assessment of the source or cause of the contamination, and determination of steps necessary to correct the source.
  - 2) Assessment of the extent of the ground water contamination and any potential dispersion.
  - 3) Evaluation of potential remedial actions to restore and maintain ground water quality, and ensure that the ground water quality standards will not be exceeded at the compliance monitoring wells.

I. Reporting Requirements

1. Ground Water Monitoring Report:



- a) Schedule - The sampling and analysis required in Part I G 6, above, shall be reported according to Table 2, below.

**Table 2 Compliance Monitoring Reporting Schedule**

<u>Quarter</u>	<u>Report Due On</u>
1 <sup>st</sup>	(Jan., Feb., March) April 15
2 <sup>nd</sup>	(April, May, June) July 15
3 <sup>rd</sup>	(July, Aug., Sept.) October 15
4 <sup>th</sup>	(Oct., Nov., Dec.) January 15

- b). Sampling and Analysis Report - will include:
- 1) Field Data Sheets - or copies thereof, including the field measurements, required in Part I G 6(c)(3), above, and other pertinent field data, such as: well name/number, date and time, names of sampling crew, type of sampling pump or bail, measured casing volume, volume of water purged before sampling.
  - 2) Results of Ground Water Analysis - including date sampled, date received, ion balance; and the results of analysis for each parameter, including: value or concentration, units of measurement, reporting limit (minimum detection limit for the examination), analytical method, and the date of the analysis.
  - 3). Ground Water Level Measurements - water level measurements from ground water monitoring wells will be reported in both measured depth to ground water and ground water elevation above mean sea level.

J. Compliance Schedule

1. Quality Assurance Project Plan - The water quality sampling, handling and analysis plan, Appendix A of the permit, shall be updated and/or modified as required by the Executive Secretary. The revised plan will be submitted for Executive Secretary approval, within 45 days following receipt of notice from the Executive Secretary, that updates or revisions to the plan are required. The revised document will replace the current Appendix A and is hereby incorporated by reference.

2. Final Tailing Impoundment Closure Plan - The Reservation Canyon Tailing Impoundment Site Characterization and Final Closure Design report (Report) was submitted to the Division in August. In accordance with the submitted design, incremental placement of the scheduled 1999 engineered cover commenced in November 1999 and ceased in December 1999. Similarly, incremental placement of the scheduled 2000 engineered cover will commence as weather and surface conditions permit in Spring 2000 and cease (projected) in November 2000. Final closure of the tailing impoundment shall constitute completion of removal of supernatant pool, completion of final engineered cover placement, and spillway installation. At the completion of closure activities, a construction quality assurance as-built report will be submitted within 180 days. The Report is designated as Appendix D to this permit. The Report has replaced the interim final plan and is an enforceable appendix to this permit.

II. MONITORING, RECORDING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- A. Representative Sampling. Samples taken in compliance with the monitoring requirements established under Part I shall be representative of the monitored activity.
- B. Analytical Procedures. Water sample analysis must be conducted according to test procedures specified under UAC R317-6.3.A.13, unless other test procedures have been specified in this permit or otherwise approved by the Executive Secretary.
- C. Penalties for Tampering. The Act provides that any person who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate, any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this permit shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than six months per violation, or by both.
- D. Reporting of Monitoring Results. Monitoring results obtained during each reporting period specified in the permit, shall be submitted to the Executive Secretary, Utah Division of Water Quality at the following address no later than the 15th day of the month following the completed reporting period:

State of Utah  
Division of Water Quality  
Department of Environmental Quality  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4810  
Attention: Keith Eagan, Ground Water Protection Section

- E. Compliance Schedules. Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on interim and final requirements contained in any Compliance Schedule of this permit shall be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date.
- F. Additional Monitoring by the Permittee. If the permittee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by this permit, using approved test procedures as specified in this permit, the results of this monitoring shall be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted. Such increased frequency shall also be indicated.

G. Records Contents. Records of monitoring information shall include:

1. The date, exact location, and time of sampling or measurements;
2. The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements;
3. The date(s) and time(s) analyses were performed;
4. The individual(s) who performed the analyses;
5. The analytical techniques or methods used; and,
6. The results of such analyses.

H. Retention of Records. The permittee shall retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, for a period of at least three years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the Executive Secretary at any time.

I. Twenty-four Hour Notice of Noncompliance Reporting.

1. The Permittee shall verbally report any noncompliance with permit conditions or limits as soon as possible, but no later than twenty-four (24) hours from the time the Permittee first became aware of the circumstances or determined otherwise. The verbal report shall be made to the Utah Department of Environmental Quality 24 hour number, (801) 538-6333, or to the Division of Water Quality, Ground Water Protection Section at (801) 538-6146, during normal business hours (8:00 am - 5:00 pm Mountain Time).
2. A written submission of any noncompliance with permit conditions or limits shall be provided to the Executive Secretary within five (5) days of the time that the Permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall contain:
  - a. A description of the noncompliance;
  - b. The period of noncompliance, including dates and times;
  - c. The estimated time noncompliance is expected to continue if it has not been corrected; and,

Part II  
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- d. Steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance.
  - e. When applicable, either an estimation of the quantity of material discharged to ground water, the tailing facility or an estimation of the quantity of material released outside containment structures.
3. Written reports shall be submitted to the addresses in Part II D, Reporting of Monitoring Results.
- J. Other Noncompliance Reporting. Instances of noncompliance not required to be reported within 24 hours, shall be reported at the time that monitoring reports for Part II D are submitted.
- K. Inspection and Entry. The Permittee shall allow the Executive Secretary, or an authorized representative, upon the presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:
- 1. Enter upon the Permittee's premises at reasonable time where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of the permit;
  - 2. Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit;
  - 3. Inspect at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this permit; and,
  - 4. Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the Act, any substances or parameters at any location.



III. COMPLIANCE RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Duty to Comply. The Permittee must comply with all conditions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Act and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or for denial of a permit renewal application. The Permittee shall give advance notice to the Executive Secretary of the Utah Water Quality Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.
- B. Penalties for Violations of Permit Conditions. The Act provides that any person who violates a permit condition implementing provisions of the Act is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 per day of such violation. Any person who willfully or negligently violates permit conditions is subject to a fine not exceeding \$25,000 per day of violation. Any person convicted under Section 19-5-115(2) of the Act a second time shall be punished by a fine not exceeding \$50,000 per day. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to relieve the permittee of the civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance.
- C. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity not a Defense. It shall not be a defense for a Permittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit.
- D. Duty to Mitigate. The Permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge in violation of this permit which has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.
- E. Proper Operation and Maintenance. The Permittee shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the Permittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems which are installed by a Permittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of the permit.



F. Affirmative Defense

In the event that a compliance action is initiated against the Permittee for violation of permit conditions relating to best available technology or discharge minimization technology, the Permittee may affirmatively defend against that action by demonstrating the following:

1. The Permittee submitted notification according to Part I.H.2.b.1 and Part II.I.1 and 2;
2. The failure was not intentional or caused by the Permittee's negligence, either in action or in failure to act;
3. The Permittee has taken adequate measures to meet permit conditions in a timely manner or has submitted to the Executive Secretary, for the Executive Secretary's approval, an adequate plan and schedule for meeting permit conditions; and
4. The provisions of 19-5-107 have not been violated.

#### IV. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- A. Planned Changes. The Permittee shall give notice to the Executive Secretary as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required when the alteration or addition could significantly change the nature of the facility or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged.
- B. Anticipated Noncompliance. The Permittee shall give advance notice of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements.
- C. Spill Reporting - The Permittee shall immediately report as per UCA 19-5-114 of the Utah Water Quality Act any spill or leakage from Valley Fill Leach Area No. 2, Valley Fill Leach Area No. 3, the tailings impoundment or associated facilities which is not totally contained by a collection system. This report shall be made to the phone numbers given in Part II I 1. A written report will be required within 5 business days of the occurrence and should address the requirements of UCA 19-5-114 and Part II I 2 and 3 of this permit.
- D. Permit Actions. This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the Permittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance, does not stay any permit condition.
- E. Duty to Reapply. If the Permittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the Permittee must apply for and obtain a permit renewal or extension. The application should be submitted at least 180 days before the expiration date of this permit.
- F. Duty to Provide Information. The Permittee shall furnish to the Executive Secretary, within a reasonable time, any information which the Executive Secretary may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit, or to determine compliance with this permit. The Permittee shall also furnish to the Executive Secretary, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.
- G. Other Information. When the Permittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or any report to the Executive Secretary, it shall promptly submit such facts or information.

- H. Signatory Requirements. All applications, reports or information submitted to the Executive Secretary shall be signed and certified.
1. All permit applications shall be signed as follows:
    - a. For a corporation:- by a responsible corporate officer or by a duly authorized representative of that person.;
    - b. For a partnership or sole proprietorship: by a general partner or the proprietor, respectively.
    - c. For a municipality, State, Federal, or other public agency: by either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official.
  2. All reports required by the permit and other information requested by the Executive Secretary shall be signed by a person described above or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if:
    - a. The authorization is made in writing by a person described above and submitted to the Executive Secretary, and,
    - b. The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity, such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company. (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.)
  3. Changes to Authorization. If an authorization under Part IV.H.2. is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of Part IV.H.2. must be submitted to the Executive Secretary prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications to be signed by an authorized representative.
  4. Certification. Any person signing a document under this section shall make the following certification:

"I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations."

- I. Penalties for Falsification of Reports. The Act provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or noncompliance shall, upon conviction be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than six months per violation, or by both.
- J. Availability of Reports. Except for data determined to be confidential by the Permittee, all reports prepared in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the offices of the Executive Secretary. As required by the Act, permit applications, permits, effluent data, and ground water quality data shall not be considered confidential.
- K. Property Rights. The issuance of this permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privileges, nor does it authorize any injury to private property or any invasion of personal rights, nor any infringement of federal, state or local laws or regulations.
- L. Severability. The provisions of this permit are severable, and if any provision of this permit, or the application of any provision of this permit to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances, and the remainder of this permit, shall not be affected thereby.
- M. Transfers. This permit may be automatically transferred to a new Permittee if:
  - 1. The current Permittee notifies the Executive Secretary at least 30 days in advance of the proposed transfer date;



2. The notice includes a written agreement between the existing and new Permittee containing a specific date for transfer of permit responsibility, coverage, and liability between them; and,
  3. The Executive Secretary does not notify the existing Permittee and the proposed new Permittee of his or her intent to modify, or revoke and reissue the permit. If this notice is not received, the transfer is effective on the date specified in the agreement as described in Part IV.M.2, above.
- N. State Laws. Nothing in this permit shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the Permittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, penalties established pursuant to any applicable state law or regulation under authority preserved by Section 19-5-117 of the Act.
- O. Reopener Provisions. This permit may be reopened and modified pursuant to R317-6-6.6.B or R317-6-6.10.C to include the appropriate limitations and compliance schedule, if necessary, if one or more of the following events occurs:
1. If new ground water standards are adopted by the Board, the permit may be reopened and modified to extend the terms of the permit or to include pollutants covered by new standards. The Permittee may apply for a variance under the conditions outlined in R317-6-6.4.D.
  2. Changes have been determined in background ground water quality.

**APPENDIX A**

**WATER QUALITY MONITORING  
QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA) AND QUALITY CONTROL (QC) PLAN  
GROUND WATER QUALITY DISCHARGE PERMIT UGW450002  
FOR BARRICK RESOURCES (USA) INC.  
MERCUR MINE RECLAMATION PROJECT**

April 13, 2000

Prepared By:  
Global Environmental Technologies, LLC  
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Quality Assurance Plan presents the basic procedures for ground and surface water quality investigations. The QA/QC Plan is to be implemented in accordance with monitoring requirements as per the State of Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality (DWQ), as an Appendix for applicable Ground Water Quality Discharge Permits at the Barrick Mercur Mine. This plan is to be included as Appendix A to Permit No. UGW450002 for the Barrick Mercur Mine Reclamation Project.



## 2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### 2.1 Purpose

The specific objectives of this QA/QC plan for the subsurface and surface water quality investigations at the permitted facilities are to:

1. Evaluate background ground water and surface water quality for each facility.
2. Establish ground water protection levels for each monitoring location.
3. Establish ground water and surface water compliance monitoring procedures.

The specific activities that will be carried out to achieve the above objectives are:

1. Measure static ground water levels at all monitor well sites.
2. Collect and analyze ground water quality samples from the monitor wells on a semiannual basis. Analytes are presented in Table A-1. Monitor well water quality data and surface water quality data reporting frequency will be completed as required by the permit.

### 3.0 PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITY

#### 3.1 Organization

The organization for the activity is as follows:

#### 3.2 Responsibilities

The project manager (PM) will have overall responsibility for direction of the project quality control and reporting, and will prepare QA plans for review.

The PM will be responsible for execution of the activity in accordance with the plan. The PM and the project quality assurance officer (PQAO) will review all data generated from the investigation and will be responsible for validating the data.

The PM and the PQAO will 1) review and approve the QA/QC plan, 2) review all quality control data, and 3) identify problems and recommend corrective action

as necessary. The PQAO will report directly to the PM.

The State of Utah Project Manager (UPM) will be advised of any proposed changes to be made to this plan, and will advise Global Environmental Technologies and Barrick of any comments or objections to this plan, its implementation or any proposed changes to the plan.

#### 4.0 ANALYTICAL PARAMETERS AND QA OBJECTIVES

Analytical parameters, their detection limits, methods of analysis and holding times are given in Table A-1. Specific conductance, temperature and pH will be measured in the field. Sample collection will proceed in the following order:

1. Total Metals
2. Dissolved Metals
3. Cyanides
4. Major Cations/Anions
5. Nitrate, Nitrite and Ammonia

As a check on field measurements, pH and specific conductance will be run in the lab.

Chemical analysis will be performed by Chemtech of Murray, Utah, a laboratory certified under either the Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, for the required parameters listed in Table A-1. The internal quality assurance program for this project will be in accordance with the State of Utah Department of Environmental Quality protocol. Laboratory certification will be continuously monitored by Barrick by the PM and PQAO .

Routine analysis of samples will be performed in accordance with standard EPA procedures; special analyses will be performed according to EPA methods for chemical analyses of water and wastes. Specific analytical methodologies and references are listed in Table A-1. These methodologies specify the documentation needed to complete and evaluate the data. They also define acceptable accuracy and precision criteria that must be set for the data to be judged valid. Accuracy is defined by the EPA as the percent recovery of a spiked sample. Laboratory matrix spikes are actual field samples spiked in the laboratory with a representative group from the list of required parameters as per Table A-1. Matrix spikes will be performed at the rate of 10 percent of all samples obtained from the permit on an annual basis. As part of the monitoring program, two samples per year will be split for matrix spike analysis. No well will be sampled consecutively during the same year for a matrix spike.



Precision is defined by the EPA as the relative percent difference of duplicate sample analysis of similar matrix. Duplicate samples will be performed at the rate of 10 percent of all samples obtained from each permit. As part of the semiannual monitoring program, two samples per year will be split for duplicate analysis from wells regulated under Permit UGW450002. No well will be sampled consecutively during the same year for a duplicate analysis. Only the required parameters as per Table A-1 will be analyzed in the laboratory.

A trip blank will be submitted during each sampling event. If contaminant concentrations in the blank are within an order of magnitude when compared with field sample results, resampling will be required.

#### 4.1 Data Quality Objectives

The data collected as part of this investigation is intended for use by the State of Utah Project Manager (the State of Utah Department of Environmental Quality, UDWQ), and by Barrick and its consultants. Laboratory and field procedures have been selected to ensure a high confidence level in the analytical results based on precision, accuracy, representativeness, completeness, and comparability.

The quality control of field data will be managed by the WQC and the PM for each type of data as defined in this report. Field data will be compared to other data at the site for reasonableness. The historic data will also be assessed for accuracy during this process to evaluate consistency and compatibility of all data taken at the site. Data will be compared to assess if the results are reasonable and consistent. Unreasonable results will be evaluated by technical personnel who will decide if retesting is required. Table A-1 presents the list of analytes for water quality samples with the laboratory analytical method shown for each analysis.



## 5.0 SAMPLING PROCEDURES

This section presents details on water quality sampling water level measurements, and flow rate measurement methods.

### 5.1 Ground Water Sampling

Ground water sampling locations are specified for each permit in the Statement of Basis. Compliance monitoring sampling is specified in I.G.1 through 6 in Permit No. UGW450002.

#### 5.1.1 Water Level Measurements

Static water level measurements are to be made in all monitor wells during this investigation. Ground water level measurements are to be made with electrical water level meters graduated in 0.01 foot increments. Before each measurement, the instrument probe is to be thoroughly washed with distilled water. Measurements are to be made to a standard reference point, usually the top of the north side of the steel casing. Care will be taken to make sure that the water level measurement is reproducible. Ground water level elevation measurements relative to mean sea level will also be reported.

Measurements will be recorded on the water level measurement log as shown on Figure A-1 and transcribed to the water level records.

#### 5.1.2 Chemical Samples

Water level measurements will be made prior to sampling as specified above. The height of the column of water in the wells will be used to determine the volume of water inside the well casing and three casing volumes of water will be evacuated during the well purging process.

Dedicated submersible pumps are installed in all of the wells. Pumping shall be conducted to ensure that the upper portion (1 to 2 feet) of the static water column is evacuated. Pump discharge will be captured in a calibrated bucket to

verify the evacuated volume.

Before purging begins at each well, field instruments for pH, specific conductivity, and temperature will be calibrated according to manufacturer's directions. Orion pH and conductivity meters, or their functional equivalents will be used. Calibration standards for pH will be selected which bracket the sample pH, if possible, and conductivity standards will be selected which are the same order of magnitude as sample conductivity. Instrument calibrations will be checked after sample collection and all calibration procedures will be documented on the sampling field log.

During evacuation of the three casing volumes, pH, conductivity and temperature measurements of ground water will be made at the beginning and just prior to final purging of the last casing volume. Field measurements and observations will be recorded in a bound notebook or field logs (Field Log forms are shown on Figure A-2). Monitor well evacuation will be complete after three casing volumes have been purged.

In the event that three well casing volumes cannot be evacuated, samples will be obtained in accordance with criteria for sampling of low-yielding wells (EPA, 1986). If not enough sample volume is available to extract a sample following a 48-hour period after purging, then the well is to be considered dry for that sampling event and will not be sampled until the next scheduled sampling event.

Ground water samples will be bottled directly from the discharge of the pump. Samples for total metals will not be filtered and samples for dissolved trace metals will be filtered in the field immediately upon collection. A 0.45-micron filter will be used for filtering samples for dissolved metals analysis. An in-line, fiberglass pre-filter may also be used for excessively turbid samples. To prevent aeration of sample water, bottles will be filled with the tubing outlet just under the water surface in the bottle. Bottles will be properly labeled prior to filling, and stored on ice immediately after filling. Sample bottles of the appropriate size and with the required preservative, as per the EPA-RCRA Ground-Water Monitoring Enforcement Guidance Document (September 1986), or subsequent revisions will be obtained from the laboratory.



Pump discharge for each well should be restricted so that drawdown does not exceed the depth to the top of pump. Any sampling equipment contacting water samples will be decontaminated prior to utilization at another site. Decontamination will include cleaning with a non-phosphate detergent, a rinse with 0.1 N HCl acid solution, a rinse with tap water and a final rinse with de-ionized or distilled water and a thorough air drying in a location not susceptible to mine facility dust.

### 5.2 Surface Water Monitoring and Sampling

Surface water and process effluent samples for laboratory analyses will not be collected during closure monitoring as a result of cessation of milling and leaching activities. Tailing pond water quality will be monitored by Barrick for informational purposes during closure, and will be subject to field and laboratory analytical procedures detailed in this plan. Field measurements for pH, conductivity and temperature will be made prior to filling sample bottles and will be recorded in the field log. Tailing solution surface water samples will first be collected using a pre-cleaned Teflon bailer or in a clean 1-gallon plastic container and the sample bottle will be filled from this container. A 0.45 micron filter will be used for filtering samples for dissolved metals analysis.

Bottles will be properly labeled prior to filling and stored on ice immediately after filling. Sample bottles of the appropriate size and with the required preservative as per the EPA-RCRA Ground Water Monitoring Enforcement Guidance Document (September 1986) or subsequent revisions, will be obtained from the laboratory.

### 5.3 Sample Handling

Sample containers will be placed out of direct sunlight, preserved, shipped and analyzed within the maximum allowable holding times as specified in Table A-1. Samples will be shipped to the laboratory as soon as possible, the same day as collection and within 2 hours of collection if filtering in the laboratory is required. Analytical methods can require the following: 1) specific types of

containers; 2) preserving agents; 3) refrigeration, and 4) analysis by the laboratory within the maximum holding times. Table A-1 lists requirements for various EPA methods. All sample bottles will be supplied by the laboratory.

## 6.0 SAMPLE CUSTODY

### 6.1 Field Operations

Documentation of field operations from sample collection to data reporting is an essential part of sampling procedures. Documentation of sample possession assures that it will be possible to trace the possession and handling of the samples from the time of collection through analysis and final disposition. This documentation of the history of the sample is referred to as chain-of-custody. The following records and actions will be taken.

1. Sample Labels - Sample labels are necessary to prevent misidentification of samples. The sample label or equivalent shown on Figure A-3 will be completely filled out and attached to each sample bottle before sample collection.
2. Field Sampling and Analysis Record - Pertinent field measurements and observations will be recorded. Equipment used to measure field parameters shall be calibrated before the collection of each sample. To facilitate these records, the appropriate form shown on Figure A-1 will be filled out for each sample site. Documentation of the sources of buffers, standards, reagents, sample containers, etc., will be recorded on these forms.
3. Chain-of-Custody-Record - To establish the documentation necessary to trace sample possession from the time of collection, the chain-of-custody record as shown on Figure A-4 will be filled out in duplicate with one copy to accompany every sample shipment from the time of collection through receipt by the analytical laboratory. One copy of the form will be retained by the field sampler. The samples will be delivered to the laboratory for analysis as soon as possible, usually within one day after sampling. Maximum holding times are shown on Table A-1. Copies of the form sent to the laboratory with the samples will be returned to Barrick and Global Environmental Technologies with the analytical results and will be included in the report.
4. Sample Seals - Will be placed on each sample container (e.g., each ice chest) to verify the integrity of the samples.



6.2 Laboratory Operations

The analytical laboratory will acknowledge receipt of the samples by signing and dating in the appropriate box in the form shown on Figure A-4. This form will be returned to Barrick and to Global Environmental Technologies with the analytical results.

The laboratory will maintain internal chain-of-custody control in accordance with protocol as per the Utah Department of Environmental Quality.

## 7.0 CALIBRATION PROCEDURES AND FREQUENCY

### 7.1 General

Meters used to measure pH and specific conductance will be calibrated as outlined below prior to and during use. Source and identification (Lot No., etc.) of standards used to calibrate will be recorded on the form as presented in Figure A-2.

### 7.2 Field pH

Field pH is to be performed with the following:

Orion, Model SA-250, or equivalent.

This meter has automatic temperature correction.

Follow manufacturer's instructions for operation and standardization of instruments. Perform two-buffer standardization with buffers approximately 3 pH units apart and spanning the anticipated measurement values, if possible. The meter will be standardized prior to each sample collection and checked against the standard after each sample collection. However, if sample pH values vary widely, the meter will be re-standardized with a buffer having a pH within 1 or 2 units of that sample.

#### Notes:

1. If oil gets on the electrodes, the electrodes shall be cleaned with methanol or hydrochloric acid (1 to 9), as necessary.
2. The pH electrode will be stored in pH 7 or pH 4 buffer, depending on the manufacturer's recommendations.

### 7.3 Field Specific Conductance

Field specific conductance measurements are to be done with the following:

Orion, Model 124, or equivalent.

This meter automatically indicates specific conductance corrected to 25°C. Calibration is to be done before each sample measurement as per manufacturer's instructions.

### 7.4 Temperature

Temperature will be measured using the internal thermometer function of the pH meter or a good grade mercury-filled thermometer. Temperature should be reported to the nearest 1°C.

### 7.5 Water Level Meters

Water level measurements will be made with an electrical interface probe capable of accuracy to within 0.01 feet. This probe will be checked annually against a calibrated tape and will be repaired or re-calibrated, if necessary, prior to reuse. Water levels will be recorded in the field on the form shown on Figure A-1, along with all pertinent observations.

## 8.0 INTERNAL QUALITY CONTROL CHECKS

### 8.1 Field Operations

During each sampling event, at least one blind field ground water duplicate sample will be prepared and submitted to the laboratory. Splitting of water samples for duplications will be done by pumping waters through a "T" and simultaneously filling sample containers or by filling sample containers from the same stainless steel bucket from which the original sample was obtained.

One field equipment blank will also be collected per each sampling event. The field equipment blank sample will be prepared by pumping distilled water through the peristaltic pumping system into sample containers or filling sample containers from the stainless steel bucket in the same manner as is done for a typical sample.

A trip blank for each one of the sampling bottles will be included for each sampling event. Each of these sample bottles will be prepared by the laboratory (filled with distilled water and appropriate preservatives) and be subjected to the same field conditions and laboratory analytical tests as required for the ground water samples.

### 8.2 Laboratory Operations

The laboratory will conduct quality control checks in accordance with the State of Utah's certification requirements. This quality control check will include duplicate and spike samples. The laboratory will summarize the results of these quality control checks and submit them with the analytical results, to be included with each data report submitted to the DWQ.

One ground water sample from each sampling event will be designated for laboratory matrix spike duplicate. Field personnel will ensure that sufficient sample material is provided to the laboratory and indicate on the chain-of-custody which sample is designated for the matrix spike.

#### 9.0 DATA MANAGEMENT REDUCTION, VALIDATION AND REPORTING

All field data and chain-of-custody forms generated from sampling will be appropriately identified and included in each water quality data report. Standardized data collection forms will be used by all personnel collecting field data during the project. Standardized data forms will be used for laboratory data during this project. Use of such forms will enable consistent presentation of the data throughout the project.

Validation of all analytical data will be performed. Laboratories will be required to submit results which are supported by sufficient backup data and QA/QC results to enable the reviewer to determine the quality of the data. Validity of all data will be determined based on the precision and accuracy assessments outlined in Section 4.0 of this report. All data will be stored and maintained according to the procedures outlined.

Data will be processed through an orderly, easily traceable and logical sequence. Field data will be assessed for accuracy. Subsequent analysis, interpretation and reporting of results will be conducted by appropriate professional staff, using documents which are initialed and dated whenever necessary. Any calculations will be checked. All assumptions necessary for calculations will be approved by a senior professional within Global Environmental Technologies. No results will be reported without the required supporting documentation and proper review.



## 10.0 AUDIT PROCEDURES

The PM and the PQAO will monitor and audit performance of the QA procedures outlined in this report. The PM will conduct random field and office audits which will assure that the information being gathered is reliable and of good quality. The PQAO will be a Global Environmental Technologies employee to ensure independent evaluation and compliance with the QA procedures. The PQAO, an employee of the Salt Lake City staff of Global Environmental Technologies, will report to the PM responsible for the project.

### 10.1 Field Audits

The PM will conduct unscheduled audits of field activities during each of the sampling events to evaluate the execution of sample identification, sample control, chain-of-custody procedures, field documentation, equipment calibration and sampling operations.

An evaluation will be based on the extent to which the applicable standard operating procedures are being followed. Field documents pertaining to sample identification and control will be examined for completeness and accuracy. Field notebooks will be reviewed to see that all entries are dated and signed and that the contents are legible, written in waterproof ink or pencil and contain accurate and inclusive documentation of project activities. Because the field notebooks form the basis for reports, they will contain all measurements and observations.

The PM will also check to see that chain-of-custody procedures are being followed and that samples are being kept in secure custody at all times.

The PM will check to see that any field instruments which require calibration are current in their calibration status and that the calibration documents are traceable.

Sampling operations will be evaluated to determine if they are performed as stated in Section 6.0 or directed by the project manager. The proper number of

samples will be collected at the assigned locations. The PM and WQC will check to determine that the samples are in proper containers and are properly labeled and preserved. The PM and WQC will also determine if the required field measurements and quality assurance checks are being performed and documented as directed.

#### 10.2 Office Audits

Once a field project has been completed, the individual files will be assembled, organized and securely stored. The documents will be examined to determine that all necessary items such as signatures, dates and project numbers are included. The PM will examine all documents and determine if they have been handled and stored in the proper manner. Such files will be maintained at Barrick Mercur Mine.

The PM will review product quality to assure that the project is being performed in accordance with approved quality assurance procedures. Prior to the production of the draft document, all work products will undergo review by the PQAO. This will include review of calculations, test analysis, graphs, tables, computer input/outputs and any document that involves generating information from the field data. These reviews will be documented.



## 11.0 CORRECTIVE ACTION

Appropriate corrective action will be undertaken if sample collection deficiencies or unreliable analytical results prevent QA objectives for the project from being met. The criteria for acceptable sample collection data are given in Section 4.0 and the laboratory's QA program provides the criteria for acceptable analytical results.

Analytical results supplied by the laboratory will have been subjected to the laboratory's QA plan and will be considered by the PQAO and the PM to be acceptable unless the results significantly contradict prior knowledge of the site conditions. When this situation occurs, the PM will request that the laboratory review the quality control documentation for the sample or analysis in question. Further corrective action will be based on the specific details of the situation.

The principal appropriate action that will be required as a result of deficiencies in sample collection is resampling if one or more of the following problems occur:

1. Sample contamination is suspect due to sample results which do not represent known site conditions.
2. Sample is lost in transit to the laboratory.
3. Holding times are violated for required parameters.
4. Trip blank shows contaminant concentrations within one order of magnitude of the original field sample.

Variation between duplicate analyses for all protection level parameters in Table A-1 including trace metals or pH which are outside control limits (greater or less than 2 standard deviations of concentration mean) will be evaluated by the PM, PQAO and by the UPM to determine if re-sampling may be required. Re-analysis may be substituted for re-sampling if the holding time has not expired and the sample condition is satisfactory.

A request for appropriate action may be initiated by the PM, the PQAO or the

UPM.

## 12.0 QA REPORTS

Water quality data reports will be submitted as specified in the permit, to the State of Utah Department of Environmental Quality, (UDWQ). If re-sampling and/or re-analysis are required and the results are unavailable at the time of the data report submittal deadline, these will be forwarded to the UPM as soon as these are available. Specifically, QA reports will address the following areas:

- Results of system and/or performance audits of sample collection activities.
- Summary of the laboratory QA report, including notation of QA modifiers.
- Listing and basis for any unacceptable data.
- Significant QA problems and recommended solutions.

The QA report will be prepared by the PQAO and the PM and distributed to the State of Utah UPM. The final report for the project will contain a separate QA section which will summarize the data quality information presented in each of the previous QA reports.

### 13.0 REFERENCES

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, September 1986. RCRA Ground-Water Monitoring Technical Enforcement Guidance Document, OSWER-9950.1.

Dames & Moore , January 1990. Ground Water Assessment For Dump Leach Area #3, Barrick Mercur Gold Mine, Utah For Barrick Resources (USA), Inc.

State of Utah, Department of Health, March 20, 1990. "Written Notice to Apply For a Ground Water Discharge Permit: Tailings Pond" addressed to Mr. Eurick, signatory Don A. Ostler, Executive Secretary.

State of Utah, Department of Health, June 1990. Ground Water Quality Discharge Permit for Dump Leach #3, for Barrick Resources (USA) Inc., Mercur Mine.

State of Utah, Department of Environmental Quality, August 1994. Ground Water Quality Discharge Permit No. UGW450001, Renewal for the Reservation Canyon Tailings Impoundment; Barrick Resources (USA), Inc., Mercur Mine.

State of Utah , Department of Environmental Quality, December 1994. Ground Water Quality Discharge Permit UGW450001, renewal, for Valley Fill Leach Area No. 3, Barrick Resources (USA) Inc., Mercur Mine.



Appendix C  
UGW450002

**APPENDIX C**  
**TO UGW450002**  
**VALLEY FILL LEACH AREA No. 2**  
**POST-CLOSURE MONITORING PLAN**

**APPENDIX B TO PERMIT UGW450002**

**BARRICK RESOURCES (USA) - MERCUR MINE**

**VALLEY FILL LEACH AREA 3**

**GROUNDWATER QUALITY DISCHARGE PERMIT**

**FINAL CLOSURE PLAN**

**Original: October 28, 1991**  
**Revision 1: January 13, 1995**  
**Revision 2: January 1996**  
**Revision 3: August 1996**  
**Final : December 1997**

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Appendix a - Cyanide Bioremediation of Barrick Mercur's VFL#3 Heap Leach Pad

Appendix b - Dewatering Well Installation, Valley Fill Leach Area #3, Barrick Mercur Gold Mine

## 1.0 GENERAL

A construction permit for Valley Fill Leach Area No.3 (VFL3) was issued on July 13, 1990, by the Utah Department of Environmental Quality, Division of Water Quality (UDWQ). Conditional Groundwater Quality Discharge Permit No. UGW450001 was issued on July 10, 1990, with an expiration date of July 10, 1995. The conditional Approval to Operate the facility was issued in December 1991. The facility has continued to operate with the approval of the UDWQ.

The formal renewal process for UGW450001 was accelerated from January 1995 to August 1994 to expedite necessary changes in ground water quality protection levels and operating conditions for VFL3. A renewed Ground water Quality Discharge Permit No. UGW450001, with conditions, was issued December 12, 1994, and expires December 12, 1999.

The following conditions are specified in Part I.H.1-3 of the renewed permit:

- Necessary revisions to the Quality Assurance/Quality Control Plan (QA/QC) as required by Part E.5.a of the renewed permit were submitted as Appendix A by January 13, 1995.
- Necessary revisions to the Conceptual Closure Plan as required by Part I.D.8 and I.H.2 were submitted as Appendix C by January 13, 1995. This revised Conceptual Closure Plan contained the following information:
  - (1) Discussion of spent ore neutralization techniques
  - (2) Discussion of final site contouring, drainage, and cover design
  - (3) Discussion of post-closure ground water monitoring program
  - (4) Discussion of post-closure facility monitoring
- Submittal of a final VFL3 Closure Plan, pursuant to Part I.H.3 of the permit, was required no later than 90 days prior to the closure date of the facility. The original closure date for VFL3 was expected to be December 1997. Exhaustion of ore earlier than modeling predicted necessitated Barrick to call for cessation of leaching in mid-1997. Submittal of final proposed closure plans were strategically delayed until December 1997 to await results of the bioremediation activities for VFL3 and the installation of the dewatering well.

The UDWQ reviewed the January 13, 1995, revised conceptual plan and raised additional issues in correspondence dated October 6, 1995. Barrick responded to these additional concerns by incorporating changes into Revision 2 and submitting the plan on January 8, 1996.

On April 19, 1996, Barrick Mercur Mine management met with the UDWQ to discuss revisions to the conceptual closure plan. The UDWQ requested that Barrick perform column rinse studies to evaluate rinsing options for VFL3. As a result of the meeting, Barrick agreed with the UDWQ to perform column rinse studies. The results of these studies were presented in the August 1996 Conceptual Closure Plan (Revision 3) as Attachment 2 to the document. The August 1996 Conceptual Closure Plan was approved by the UDWQ on May 23, 1997.

On June 4, 1997, Barrick Mercur Mine management met with the UDWQ to discuss the operating plan for the detoxification of VFL3 using bioremediation techniques. Results of the bioremediation activities are documented in "Cyanide Bioremediation of Barrick Mercur's VFL#3 Heap Leach Pad" contained in Appendix A to this closure plan.

During the June 4 meeting, Barrick also discussed the submission of a plan for installation of a vertical dewatering well in VFL3 to remove residual saturation from the sub ore during closure activities. The dewatering well plan and technical specifications were submitted to the UDWQ on June 15, 1997 and approved by the UDWQ during July 1997. The well was drilled and completed between the dates of October 20 through October 28, 1997. Details of the construction of the well are contained in "Dewatering Well Installation, Valley Fill Leach Area #3, Barrick Mercur Gold Mine", Appendix B to this closure document.

It should be noted that the closure plan for VFL3 is only one component of the overall Mercur Mine Comprehensive Final Closure Plan. The development and implementation of the Mercur Final Closure Plan is a dynamic activity and may necessarily require minor modifications in any ultimate VFL3 closure plan scenario. The Mercur Closure Plan will be developed pursuant to the currently anticipated cessation of mining activities in 1997 and milling activities in 1998 and submitted to the Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining as well as to the UDWQ for their respective jurisdictional approvals.



## **2.0 FACILITY DESCRIPTION**

VFL3 has been utilized for the cyanide leaching of subore from the Mercur Mine since December 1990. Ore loading ceased in February 1997. The facility operated until October 1, 1997 for gold recovery. Gold recovery continued through bioremediation between the dates of June 16 through October 1, 1997. VFL3 is now undergoing complete facility closure. Section 3.0 describes the closure procedures implemented and planned as of this date for the closure and post-closure physical and ground water quality monitoring of VFL3.

### 3.0 CLOSURE PROCEDURES

#### 3.1 Neutralization

Following optimum resource recovery from VFL3, the application of cyanide solution for gold leaching was discontinued in June 1997. Cyanide and reagent storage, support systems, and all non-essential elements of the VFL3 plant were converted for bioremediation purposes, and then dismantled. Carbon tanks were used to polish rinse solutions with activated carbon. Pumping, piping, and all essential elements of the existing plant necessary to carry out the neutralization and closure program were utilized during bioremediation activities, which were carried out between the dates of June 16 through October 1, 1997. Solution application systems used for cyanide application were converted for the use of neutralization solution and bioremediation application.

VFL3 was neutralized in 1997 primarily for cyanide-WAD and pH using the following methodologies:

- An initial neutralization using recycled VFL3 barren solution without cyanide fortification in order to reduce the cyanide-WAD levels;
- Incidental rinsing with natural precipitation to provide additional make up water to the system;
- Bioremediation treatment through inoculation of recycled barren solution.

The goal of the 1997 neutralization effort was to achieve rinsate solution characteristics that will, under long-term infiltration conditions, be protective of the ground water regime underlying VFL3. Bioremediation treatment using inoculation of indigenous bacteria was accepted in the August 1996 Conceptual Closure Plan as the preferred method of treatment. Bioremediation was initially evaluated through column rinse test studies (Attachment to the August 1996 Revised Conceptual Closure Plan). Both the column rinse test results using process waters from VFL3, and the bioremediation effort during 1997 at VFL3 indicated that this method of rinsing provided a relatively rapid decline in cyanide-WAD concentrations while minimizing the addition of water to the system. Reductions in the levels of arsenic, mercury, copper, and nickel were also achieved. Results of rinsing VFL3 during 1997 with the addition of bacteria are contained in Appendix A to this document.

Experience obtained in the neutralization of previously closed Valley Fill Leach Areas 1 (VFL1) and 2 (VFL2) was also drawn upon during the VFL3 neutralization effort. VFL1 experienced limited fresh water application followed by an extended period of natural precipitation infiltration prior to capping. VFL2 was rinsed with tailings reclaim solution, fresh water, natural precipitation, and reclaim solution treated with ferric sulfate. The final closure plan for VFL2 was approved in May 1995 and is currently being implemented.

Barrick does not anticipate additional rinsing of the VFL3 sub ore (with the exception of natural precipitation) beyond the 1997 rinsing performed during the bioremediation of the heap. Any additional applied fresh water may increase the level of environmental impact associated with water balance considerations during the closure of the tailing impoundment. Samples taken from the newly installed dewatering well at VFL3 indicate that the

bioremediation has achieved the goals of neutralization.

The schedule of events for VFL3 neutralization include:

- May 1997: Cyanide solution application for gold leaching was discontinued. All solutions were managed at the VFL3 plant and recirculated within VFL3. Rinsing of VFL3 spent ore was accomplished using barren recycle solution for additional incremental gold recovery and physical displacement of residual free and WAD cyanide.
  - Bioremediation treatment was initiated through inoculation of the recycled barren solution being applied to the heap between the dates of June 16 through October 1, 1997.
  - A 6-inch vertical dewatering well was completed to 174.5 feet below grade in the deepest portion of the cistern basin. The well was completed and tested on October 27, 1997. The well will be pumped to minimize fluid head on the liner during closure and reclamation. The vertical well will be used to pump water to within several feet of the liner to assist in dewatering with the existing VFL3 process pump. All neutralization waters will be managed within VFL3 and to the tailing impoundment following neutralization. The schedule for this activity is subject to water balance considerations within the tailing impoundment and may incorporate neutralization "rest-periods".
  - November 1997-1999: Natural precipitation will intermittently infiltrate the VFL3 neutralized ore and be managed within VFL3 prior to dewatering to the tailing impoundment. The anticipated quantities of this additional source of neutralization solution will be in the millions of gallons and will assist in depleting the neutralized ore of contaminants of concern. No application of pumped potable water will be used. Head levels within the cistern basin will be pumped using the vertical dewatering well to maintain a minimal fluid level on the liner system, as presented in the Infiltration and Solute Transport Analysis, provided as an attachment to the August 1996 Conceptual Closure Plan. Use of the vertical dewatering well will allow for decommissioning of the cistern production pumping system. All pumping to the tailing impoundment is scheduled to cease by 2001 with the final closure actions of the tailing impoundment.
1. 1998: Complete design infiltration and plume transport modeling efforts, and initiate physical closure activities. Physical closure activities are scheduled to initiate at the beginning of the construction season in 1998, and will include:
  2. Grouting of both the upper the lower leakage collection system pipes and removal of the LCS tankage. Grouting of the leakage collection system is proposed because the upper leakage collection system discharges at a deminimus average rate of 26 gallons per month while the lower leakage collection system remains dry.
  3. Subsoil cover placement on the sub ore.
  4. Topsoil placement and seeding.
  5. Dismantling and removal of reagent storage, support systems, and all non-essential elements of the VFL3 plant.

Solution characteristics will be monitored pursuant to the applicable VFL3 Ground Water Quality Discharge Permit UGW450001 and associated Quality Assurance/Quality Control Plan.

Barrick considers neutralization of VFL3 complete at this time as rinsate quality has achieved modeled parameter characteristics.

### 3.2 Dewatering

The removal of solutions from VFL3 will be managed for a period of four years from the final date of dewatering well installation. Barrick anticipates decommissioning of the existing production cistern as water levels in VFL3 diminish. Neutralization solution pumped from VFL3 will be taken to the tailing impoundment East Bay for forced evaporation. At the end of the four-year VFL3 solution management period, all pumping activity will cease. At this time, results of infiltration modeling indicate that the long-term levels of residual fluids and meteoric infiltration impounding on the liner system will be less than the operating head levels in VFL3.

### 3.3 Facility Decommissioning

Upon completion of the dewatering and approval from the UDWQ that the neutralization effort has achieved acceptable rinsate characteristics, all distribution piping will be decommissioned. Both the upper and lower leakage collection systems will be grouted closed and associated tankage removed. The operating pregnant solution pumping system will be decommissioned in favor of the vertical dewatering well. The dewatering well will remain intact for a period of four years from the date ore leaching ceases to accommodate fluid management considerations discussed in the Infiltration and Solute Transport Analysis, provided as an attachment to the August 1996 Conceptual Closure Plan. Upon completion of all spent ore dewatering activities, the plant site, cistern, dewatering well, and all associated components will be dismantled and disposed of or salvaged in accordance with applicable law. Power supply components, ground water wells, area lighting, and associated devices will remain to accommodate the post-closure ground water monitoring period.

### 3.4 Shaping / Contouring

VFL3 was loaded at a 3:1 horizontal:vertical configuration to accommodate final shaping. Drawing Valley Fill Leach Area 3, 3:1 Contour, December 16, 1994, which was provided with the August 1996 Conceptual Closure Plan, depicts this configuration.

Following the decommissioning of the solution distribution piping, the spent ore will be contoured and shaped to a configuration and bearing capacity sufficient to support a final cover. Approximately 28 acres will be involved at an overall side slope of 3:1.

The two upgradient drainages have been filled with mine overburden material to an elevation consistent with the two roadways passing around the VFL3 site on the west and east sides. The tops of these filled areas will be topsoiled and the drainages routed to tie into the above-mentioned channels.

### 3.5 Cover Placement

The final cover is anticipated to consist of two distinct zones: (1) a nominal three foot layer of subsoil, and (2) a nominal one foot layer of topsoil and demonstrates application of Best Available Technology. Justification for this conceptual cover design is provided in the report entitled "Infiltration and Solute Transport Analysis, August 1996, TriTechnics Corporation for Barrick Mercur Mine" which was provided with the accepted August 1996 Conceptual Closure Plan. The cistern and vertical dewatering well pumping systems will be removed and cover installation completed in these limited areas only after the decision is made by UDWQ/Barrick that additional pumping of residual heap solutions is not warranted as a result of cover effectiveness.



### 3.6 Erosion Control / Revegetation

The final topsoil cover will be graded to prevent significant ponding of water. Additionally, Best Management Practices to mitigate erosion potential will be practiced. Concurrent with the erosion control placement, the topsoil will be seeded by hydroseeding or other methods approved by the Utah Division of Oil, Gas & Mining. It is anticipated that a seed mixture of native grasses, legumes and shallow-root brushes will be utilized at VFL3. All seed mixture will be applied with appropriate mulch and fertilizer.

### 3.7 Post-closure Facility Monitoring

Post-closure monitoring will ultimately be designed to satisfy the various regulatory agencies with applicable oversight. Monitoring of the revegetative effort will continue while ground water post-closure monitoring is being performed. The goal of the revegetation is to achieve adequate plant growth that is self-propagating within a period of 3 growing seasons, in accordance with the Utah Department of Natural Resources, Division of Oil, Gas & Mining surety bond release provisions. Monitoring of facility stability and erosional impacts, and general security matters will be maintained until Barrick has accomplished all site responsibilities. Monitoring of the final cover will consist of quarterly inspections during the revegetation period for cover erosion, settlement, animal burrows, drainage ditch conditions, and plant growth. Immediate repairs will be undertaken as necessary to return the spent ore cover to the original post-closure conditions. The date for completion of all VFL3 reclamation activities is currently projected at 2002.

Access to the reclaimed VFL3 may remain open indefinitely utilizing the historical public access road to the east side of the site up Meadow Canyon, as mandated by Barrick's conditional use permit with Tooele County and agreements with adjacent landowners. Alternate routing away from VFL3 will be evaluated as well as protective barriers for VFL3 access.



#### **4.0 POST-CLOSURE FACILITY GROUND WATER QUALITY MONITORING**

Valley Fill Leach Area 3 Ground water Quality Discharge Permit UGW450001 expires in December 1999. The projected date for initiation of VFL3 physical closure activities to commence is at the start of the construction season in 1998. Therefore, a renewal application for UGW450001 is currently scheduled for submission to the UDWQ in June 1999 for continued ground water quality monitoring of the facility during the period between December 1999, and December 2002. This schedule may be adjusted if a consensus decision is made to renew UGW450001 upon cessation of active leaching.

Ground water monitoring during the post-operational phase of VFL3 will be governed by applicable permit conditions. The necessity for ground water quality monitoring beyond the year 2002, which would require yet an additional permit renewal, will be determined by June 2002.

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## **Cyanide Bioremediation of Barrick Mercur's VFL #3 Heap Leach Pad**

November 4, 1997

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## **Executive Summary**

Active cyanide detoxification was pursued at Barrick Resources (USA) Inc., Mercur Mine Valley Fill Leach #3, (VFL #3) heap leach pad to ensure that low levels of residual WAD cyanide could be achieved. Testing of several detoxification methods showed that bioremediation was capable of increasing the rate of cyanide destruction

A bioreactor was constructed at the VFL #3 process area. The purpose of the bioreactor was to grow large numbers of cyanide-degrading bacteria in a short period of time. Laboratory testing had shown that the VFL #3 process solution contained indigenous cyanide-degrading bacteria and that these bacteria populations could be increased to high numbers (10<sup>8</sup> cells/mL) using brewers yeast extract as the bacterial nutrient.

The bioreactor consisted of a 4000-gallon, stirred tank to which VFL #3 process solution and nutrient were added on a continuous basis. The bioreactor was heated using an immersion heater and air was bubbled into the tank to maintain aerobic conditions. The bioreactor produced a high bacteria inoculum that flowed into the barren surge tank. Solution flow through the bioreactor was initiated June 16, 1997. The bioreactor was operated until October 1, 1997.

Within a month after initiation of bacteria addition, the WAD cyanide concentration in the VFL #3 pregnant solution decreased from about 29 mg/L to less than 0.56 mg/L. Much of this initial decrease was natural degradation of free cyanide. By October 1, 1997, the entire surface of VFL #3 had been sprayed with bacteria inoculum. The resultant rinsate from all parts of the pad contained between 0.20 and 0.56 mg/L WAD cyanide; the target WAD cyanide concentration of 0.20 mg/L was achieved on a sporadic basis through the inoculum period

The concentrations of metals present as WAD cyanide complexes also decreased, indicating that the bacteria were indeed destroying the WAD cyanide. The copper concentration in the pregnant solution dropped from 0.97 to 0.018 mg/L, while mercury concentrations decreased from 1.3 to 0.002 mg/L. Nickel, which forms a particularly strong WAD cyanide complex, dropped from 1.3 to 0.02 mg/L. Since arsenic in the VFL #3 process solution is not present as a cyanide complex, cyanide bioremediation did not have a significant effect on the arsenic concentration.

## Introduction

Options for cyanide detoxification of Barrick Mercur's 5-million ton Valley Fill Leach #3 (VFL #3) heap leach pad were evaluated in May of 1996. Column rinse tests were performed at this time to compare five rinsing/detoxification techniques. These techniques included barren solution recycle, fresh water rinsing, hydrogen peroxide treatment, ferrous sulfate treatment and bioremediation. Although fresh water rinsing provided the fastest detox, this technique would generate a large amount of rinsate requiring handling problems at the tailing impoundment. Of the other methods tested, bioremediation provided the quickest reduction in cyanide and was chosen as the method for detoxification of the VFL #3 heap. These column rinse test results were summarized in a report to Barrick Mercur dated July 22, 1996.

Bioremediation involves growth and application of cyanide-degrading bacteria (*Pseudomonas pseudoalcaligenes*) to the heap leach pad. These bacteria metabolize the cyanide, utilizing the nitrogen to form amino acids, while the carbon is either taken into the bacteria cellular structure or released as carbon dioxide. Consequently, byproducts from cyanide bioremediation are nontoxic.

A lab-scale continuous bioreactor was operated to determine full-scale operating conditions and best nutrient. This testing indicated that a 2400-gallon bioreactor with a continuous flow of 3.3 gpm would result in a bacteria population of  $10^6$  cell/mL in the barren solution flow to the pad. The nutrient which provided the best growth of bacteria was Amberex 1003AG, an agglomerated brewers yeast extract.

## Conversion of the Cyanide Tank to a Bioreactor

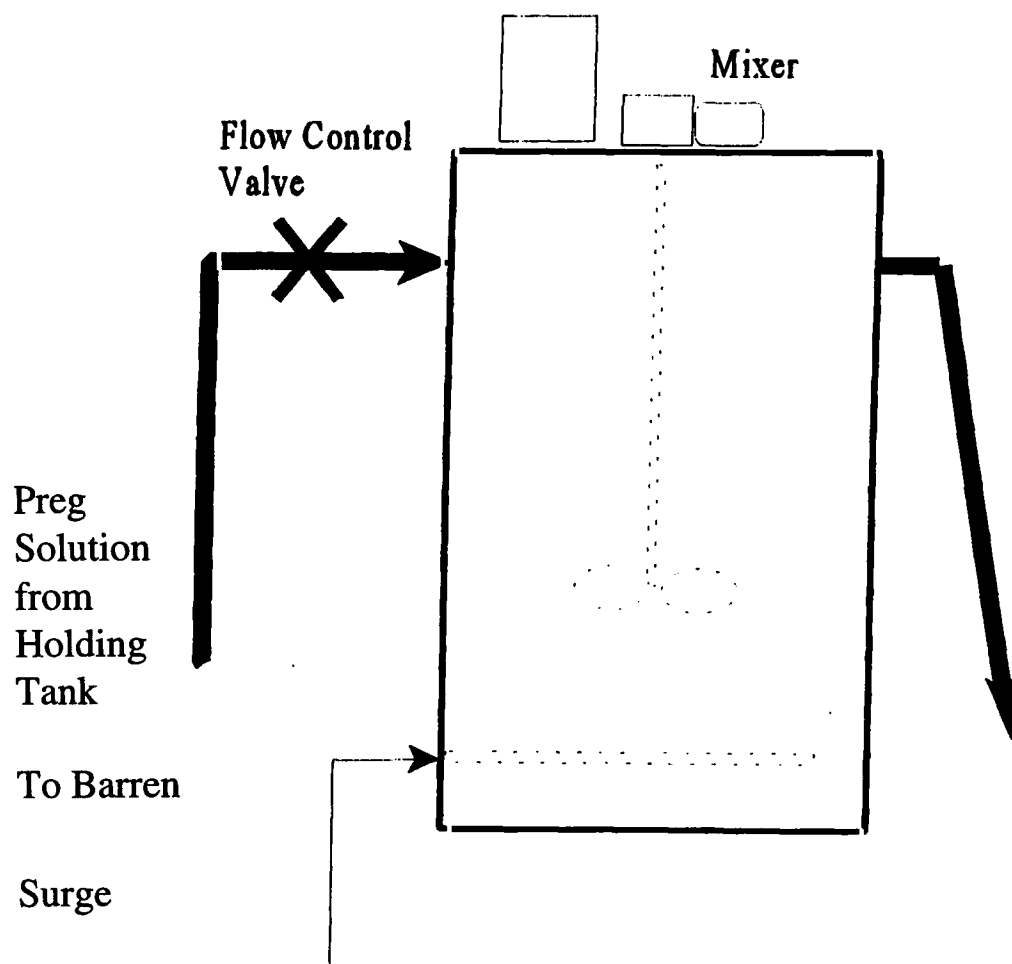
Cyanide bioremediation was performed at the VFL #3 heap leach pad by growing cyanide degrading bacteria to a high population in a continuous flow-through bioreactor and adding these bacteria to the barren solution sprayed on the pad. A 4000-gallon tank capable of achieving the designed flowrate and population of bacteria was converted to a bioreactor. The bioreactor was configured according to Figure 1. The following modifications were made to the tank:

- The original cyanide mix tank was used to feed the bioreactor because a pump and flowmeter already existed at the discharge of this tank which could control flow to the bioreactor in the range of 0 to 5 gpm. In addition, the mix tank contained a heater which could preheat the barren solution.
- The mixer, which had one impeller mounted on a 4-ft shaft, was overhauled to handle continuous service.
- A small vane-type air compressor, capable of delivering 9 cfm air, was mounted to the side of the tank to provide air for the aerobic bacteria. The air was fed to the reactor via a 1-inch pipe mounted horizontally across the tank below the mixer. Small holes were drilled



**FIGURE 1 Full Scale Bioreactor**

Dry Yeast Feeder



Tank 4000 -

Bioreactor

- The outlet of the bioreactor was piped to allow the tank to maintain a full level at all times. Thus, the tank was operated by solution overflow. The outlet drained directly to the carbon column discharge surge tank.
- A dry-powder screw feeder (Accu-rate) was installed on top of the mix tank to feed the Amberex 1003AG. The discharge of the feeder was enclosed to prevent wind loss of the nutrient.
- Thermostatically-controlled immersion heaters were used in both the bioreactor and the holding tank to maintain a temperature of about 70°F (heating the pad runoff from 45 to 70°F significantly increases the growth rate of the bacteria)

### Initiation of Bacteria Growth

The growth of bacteria in the bioreactor was initiated the week of June 9, 1997 by filling the bioreactor with barren solution. One forty pound bag of Amberex 1003AG was added to the reactor. The mixer was turned on and air flow to the reactor was initiated. Indigenous bacteria in the barren solution began to multiply. By June 16, 1997 the bacteria population in the bioreactor had increased to  $5.6 \times 10^8$  cells/mL. No barren solution or nutrient was added during this growth period. Bacteria populations were measured with a microscope using a Petroff-Hauser counting chamber.

### Continuous-Flow Operation

On June 16, 1997, solution flow through the bioreactor was begun, thus, initiating the bacteria inoculation into the barren surge tank; the bacteria-laden barren solution was then sprayed onto the pad. Amberex 1003 AG was continuously fed to the reactor with the screw feeder. The bioreactor was operated from June 16, 1997 until October 1, 1997 with intermittent shut-downs. The shut-downs were caused by power outages; problems with the air compressor and the mixer also caused shutdowns. Some of the interruptions required that the bacteria population be allowed to increase before restarting flow-through operation.

The bioreactor was monitored for pH, dissolved oxygen, temperature, solution flow and nutrient feeder setting (Table 1). A bacteria population of  $10^7$  to  $10^9$  cells/mL was maintained in the bioreactor during flow-through operation. Bioreactor temperature was maintained at 64 to 78°F. During flow-through operation, the dissolved oxygen concentration remained below 1 mg/L which is an indication of significant biological oxygen consumption. An unsuccessful attempt was made to increase the oxygen concentration in the bioreactor by adding baffles to increase mixing efficiency. The bacteria produced in the bioreactor during continuous operation were aerobes even though the dissolved oxygen concentrations were low. Conditions in the bioreactor may have become anaerobic on two occasions when solution flow through the tank was disrupted.

In addition to monitoring the bacterial population in the bioreactor, bacteria cell counts were measured in the pregnant solution to determine if bacteria addition to the pad was affecting the bacteria population at the bottom of the heap. Table 2 shows the pregnant solution bacteria population from April 21, 1997 through September 25, 1997. Bacteria populations varied significantly throughout bioremediation.

### **WAD Cyanide Detoxification During Water Rinsing and Bioremediation**

During the period of bioreactor operation, June 16 to October 1, 1997, barren solution sprays were moved across the pad, inoculating the entire surface of VFL #3 with bacteria. Table 3 shows the volume of solution sprayed onto VFL #3 during bioreactor operation.

Table 4 shows the WAD cyanide concentration, temperature, dissolved oxygen and pH of the pregnant solution from the pad which was measured periodically by Compliance Technology. Figure 2 shows this data graphically. The WAD cyanide concentration in the pregnant solution was above 26 mg/L before initiation of bioremediation on June 16, 1997. This concentration decreased to below 0.6 mg/L by July 10 and remained in the range of 0.20 to 0.56 mg/L throughout the remaining period of bioremediation. The main reason the WAD cyanide concentration did not continue to decrease is that barren solution was applied to portions of the pad not yet inoculated with bacteria. This flushed out cyanide from areas not yet remediated. By the time bioremediation was suspended on October 1, 1997, the entire surface of the pad had seen bacteria inoculum and solution spray. The consistency in WAD cyanide analyses over several months gives some assurance that the WAD cyanide concentration is between 0.20 and 0.56 mg/L in the process solution throughout the entire pad.

The decrease in the WAD cyanide concentration of the pregnant solution may not be fully attributable to bioremediation. During rinsing of heap leach pads in general, free cyanide concentrations will decrease relatively quickly even without active treatment. Once the free cyanide is gone, the remaining cyanide is tied up in metal/cyanide complexes. For example, the VFL #3 process solution contained copper, nickel and mercury cyanide complexes. Based on the original concentrations of these metals in the VFL #3 process solution, the rate of cyanide detoxification should have significantly slowed when the WAD cyanide concentration reached 3 to 4 mg/L. The rate of cyanide detoxification did not slow until the WAD cyanide concentration reached 0.5 mg/L, indicating bioremediation may be partially responsible for the quick rate of cyanide detoxification.

Dissolved oxygen levels in the pregnant solution were generally less than 1 mg/L after June 30, 1997 indicating the oxygen was being consumed within the pad. Pumping through the process plant and spraying the pad reoxygenated the solution. Measurement of oxygen in the barren solution returning to the pad showed a near saturated concentration of 7 mg/L.



## WAD Metals Reduction During Bioremediation

Metals analyses were conducted by AEC Laboratory (a State of Utah certified lab) on samples of pregnant solution every one to two weeks; analytical reports from AEC are appended to this report. Samples were analyzed for arsenic copper, mercury, nickel, and silver. Mercury was measured using hydride generation atomic absorption; the other metals were analyzed using an inductively coupled plasma technique. The concentrations of metals which form WAD cyanide complexes (copper, mercury, nickel and silver) are shown in Table 5 and in Figures 3, 4 and 5. The concentrations of these metals decreased as a result of cyanide detoxification.

**Copper.** The concentration of copper in the pregnant solution decreased from about 1 mg/L to below the detection limit of 0.05 mg/L during bioremediation as shown in Figure 3. The sample taken on October 1, 1997 was analyzed by JCP/mass spectroscopy which gave a lower detection limit. The copper concentration in this sample was 0.018 mg/L.

**Mercury.** The mercury concentration in the process solution was above 1 mg/L during leaching and water rinsing. Once bioremediation was begun, the mercury concentration in the pregnant solution decreased to about 0.003 mg/L as shown in Figure 4. Reducing the mercury concentration is important due to the particularly low drinking water MCL of 0.002 mg/L.

**Nickel.** The nickel concentration decreased slowly from about 1.3 mg/L to less than the detection limit of 0.1 mg/L during the period of rinsing and bioremediation as shown in Figure 5. The final sample was analyzed by ICP/mass spectroscopy to lower the detection limit. The nickel concentration in this sample was 0.020 mg/L.

**Silver.** The silver concentration in process solution was relatively low (<0.05 mg/L)

## Arsenic Concentration during Bioremediation

The arsenic concentration in the process solution remained between 0.36 and 1.1 mg/L during leaching and bioremediation as shown in Figure 6. In heap leach process solutions, arsenic is generally present as arsenite,  $\text{AsO}_2$  or arsenate,  $\text{AsO}_4^{3-}$ , not as a cyanide complex; thus, cyanide bioremediation does not have a significant effect on reducing the arsenic concentration.

## Conclusions

Several conclusions can be made from the data presented in this report, including:

- Cyanide-degrading bacteria were successfully grown and applied to the VFL #3 leach pad

- The combination of natural degradation and bioremediation reduced the WAD cyanide concentration in the rinsate from all portions of VFL #3 to less than 0.56 mg/L
- The concentrations of the WAD cyanide metals (copper, mercury, nickel and silver) were significantly reduced. The total concentration of these metals as of October 1, 1997 was less than 0.05 mg/L, indicating almost complete destruction of the WAD cyanide complexes.



Appendix B – Permit  
UGW450002

Valley Fill Leach Area 3  
Closure Plan  
Final Closure Plan  
December 1997

**APPENDIX b TO FINAL CLOSURE PLAN**

**GROUND WATER QUALITY DISCHARGE PERMIT  
UGW450002**

**DEWATERING WELL (DW-20) INSTALLATION  
VALLEY FILL LEACH AREA #3  
BARRICK RESOURCES (USA) Inc.  
- MERCUR MINE FINAL REPORT**

**DEWATERING WELL (DW-20) INSTALLATION  
VALLEY FILL LEACH AREA #3  
BARRICK RESOURCES (USA) Inc. - MERCUR MINE  
FINAL REPORT**

**December 21, 1997**

**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL TECHNOLOGIES, L.L.C.  
Salt Lake City, Utah**

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

On October 27, 1997, Barrick Mercur Mine completed the installation of a vertical dewatering well (DW-20) at the Mercur Mine Valley Fill Leach Area #3 (VFL3). The concept of the dewatering well was modeled in the "Infiltration and Solute Transport Analysis, Valley Fill Area #3, Barrick Mercur Mine" dated August 15, 1996, included as an attachment to the Interim Conceptual Closure Plan for VFL3, submitted in August 1996. The plan was approved by the Utah Division of Water Quality (UDWQ) on May 23, 1997. The installation of the dewatering well was discussed during a joint meeting between Barrick and the UDWQ on June 4, 1997, and the specifications for the well and engineering drawings were presented in a document to the UDWQ on June 15, 1997. The purpose of the well is to provide maximum dewatering capability to VFL3 following cessation of leaching and sub ore neutralization, and to minimize the potential for infiltration through the liner during closure and following placement of the engineered cover. Operation of the dewatering well is expected to follow the modeled duration used in VFL3 infiltration model. The well was located using VFL3 as-built drawings and survey datum taken during the construction of VFL3. As-built drawings were used to provide the location of the deepest portion of the permanent process pool, and to ascertain elevations for the liner and the top of the Golden Gate Tailing Blanket. The boring was collared at a surveyed elevation of 7211.37 feet msl at coordinates N. 27303.13, E. 20891.14. This location was confirmed by a licensed professional surveyor prior to initiation of drilling. Barrick provided access to this location and constructed a drill pad location prior to drilling. Location of the well is shown on Figure 1. The well bore was advanced through approximately 170 feet of leached sub ore that was loosely consolidated to unconsolidated. Spent ore materials rest on historic Golden Gate Tailing, used as a blanket liner. This is shown on as-built drawings to have a thickness of 4 to 5 feet, and directly overlies a polyethylene flexible membrane liner (FML). VFL3 covers approximately 26 acres. The facility is located in the southern end of the Oquirrh Mountain Range in Meadow Canyon, within the northwest quarter of Section 5, Township 6 South, Range 3 West, and the south-west quarter of Section 32, Township 5 South, Salt Lake Base and Meridian. VFL3 has been in operation since December 1990.

### 1.1 Scope of Work

Barrick contracted the drilling, well installation, and well development for the dewatering well. Barrick issued technical specifications for well construction to the drilling contractor. Well drilling was performed by Layne Christensen of Salt Lake City, Utah. Well construction oversight, development, testing and sampling of the neutralized process water was performed by Global Environmental Technologies (GET) personnel. Barrick contracted the laboratory analysis to CHEMTECH Ford Chemical Laboratory in Salt Lake City, Utah. GET provided quality assurance, engineering and geological services during the field activities. The objectives of services provided by GET were to:

- Observe drilling and well construction activities in order to provide Barrick with quality

assurance control, and;

- Collect and evaluate technical information.

The scope of services performed by GET included:

- Observation of drilling and well construction activities to evaluate conformance with technical specifications for dewatering well DW-20;
- Observation of well drilling to document that the optimum depth of drilling had been achieved, and the boring did not penetrate the liner materials;
- Development and pump installation;
- Compilation and interpretation hydrologic information. The boring was logged and hydraulic conditions were evaluated following the performance of well testing;
- Preparation of this summary report. Details of field activities are included in the appendices.



## 2.0 FIELD ACTIVITIES

Field activities included technical observation of the drilling and installation of well DW-20 and performance of well testing. Water quality samples were collected during the specific capacity test by GET. The results of the initial water quality analysis are presented in this report in Attachment A.

### 2.1 Drilling and Well Construction

Drilling, well installation, well development, and well testing were performed by Layne Christensen Drilling of Salt Lake City as contracted directly with Barrick. The boring was drilled with a Schramm 685 drill rig using ODEX reverse drilling methods. Drilling fluids included only air. The boring was drilled to a total depth of 174.7 feet below grade, and the outer ODEX casing was advanced directly behind the drill bit to avoid collapse of the loosely consolidated sub ore materials. Ore materials consisted of sand to boulder size particles that were loaded onto the valley fill through dumping from trucks. Air monitoring for cyanide was conducted throughout drilling and well construction activities. Air monitoring indicated that no cyanide was encountered in the boring during drilling or construction of the well.

The well was constructed using 6-inch Schedule 80 PVC materials in accordance with specifications issued by Barrick. No significant unforeseen conditions were encountered, and no modifications were made to construction procedures. Figure 2 shows the schematic construction details of the well.

Ten—inch ODEX casing was advanced through the neutralized ore to a depth of 173 feet. At this depth, drilling characteristics indicated that a softer (Golden Gate Tailing blanket) had been intercepted, which was confirmed by the nature of the return cuttings from the cyclone. Drilling commenced for approximately 1 additional foot into the tailing material.

The 10-inch casing was left in place, and a Mills Knife was lowered to the bottom of the casing. Four knife slots per foot of steel casing section were made between depths of 174 to 154 feet below grade.

The 20-foot section of PVC screen was lowered into the steel casing, with stainless steel centralizers attached at the base, middle and top of the screen. A PVC end cap was used to close the bottom of the screened assembly. Screen slot size was 0.040 inches. The screen was gravel packed using tremie methods. The gravel pack was a 8-16 cleanwashed Colorado Silica Sand, which extended from the bottom of the boring to 138.5 feet below grade. A 6-foot bentonite pellet seal was placed directly on the gravel pack to a depth of 132.5 feet. A neat-cement grout, placed using tremie methods was used to seal the well to the surface.

### 2.2 Well Development and Testing

The well was developed initially using a bailer to remove development sand and fine materials generated during the drilling of the boring. Water discharged from the well was collected in a container and inspected for the presence of sand pack and cuttings materials. Development was

considered complete when the presence of these materials was negligible.

Attachment B contains detailed information on well development and testing. A short-term specific capacity test was conducted to provide estimates of specific capacity for the well in order to size pump requirements. The well was initially pumped at a constant rate. Throughout the testing, the pumping rate was increased and held in order to assess the changes in drawdown relative to the changes in pumping. Water levels initially dropped during each step of increase in discharge rate, but then began to recover as the increased rate was held constant. This recovery made assessment hydraulic parameters, such as transmissivity or hydraulic conductivity difficult to estimate with any degree of reliability. Water levels were measured periodically using an electric water level probe. Well DW-20 was pumped at rates varying from approximately 13.5 to 22 gpm, the fullest capacity of the pump.

### 2.3 Water Level Measurements

Prior to and after well completion and development, depth to water was measured using an electric probe and measuring to the nearest 0.01 foot. Water levels fluctuated between 162.15 to 163.50 feet below grade.

### 2.4 Water Quality Sampling

Water quality samples were collected by GET during the test on October 28, 1997. An initial sample was obtained at the beginning of the specific capacity test (DW-20-0), and then at approximately 2 hours into the test (sample DW-20-45), and a final set (DW-20-90) obtained after about 4.5 hours of pumping. Samples were analyzed by CHEMTECH Ford Analytical Laboratory of Salt Lake City, Utah. Attachment A contains water quality analyses for well DW-20.

Based upon the October 28, 1997 sampling analytical results of well DW-20, water quality indicates the following:

- . The pH of the water remained constant at 7.10 throughout the test, and;
- . Weak acid dissociable (WAD) cyanide concentrations consistently dropped throughout the test, from 0.70 mg/l to 0.082 mg/l at the end of the test.

### 3.0 Summary and Conclusions

Results and conclusions of this study are summarized as follows:

1. Well DW-20 was drilled through neutralized sub ore to a total depth of 174 feet where the Golden Gate Tailing blanket was intercepted. The VFL3 liner was not reached or disturbed during drilling or construction.
2. Completed installation depth of the vertical dewatering well will allow for essentially complete dewatering of VFL3 to a level above the liner that was modeled in the Infiltration and Solute Transport Analysis submitted with the August 1996 Conceptual Closure Plan for VFL3.
3. DW-20 was pumped at rates up to 22 gpm. Specific capacity was estimate to be 13 gpm per foot of drawdown at the end of the test. Hydraulic conductivity could not be estimated from the data.
4. Measurements of pH and cyanide-WAD obtained from the final water samples during the specific capacity test indicate that the neutralization of the sub ore through bioremediation techniques achieved the goals of the neutralization for both parameters.



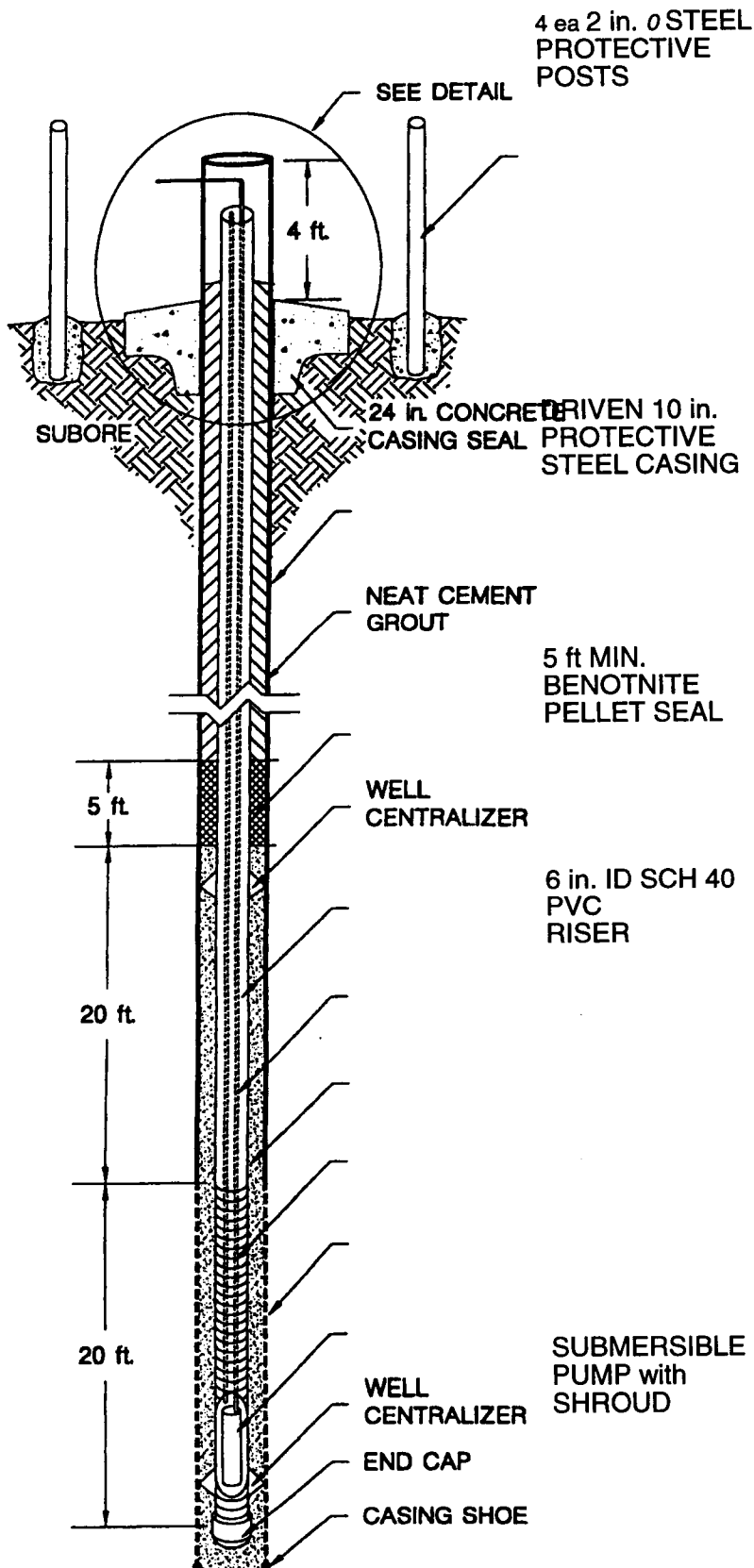




VFL3 Dewatering Well Installation

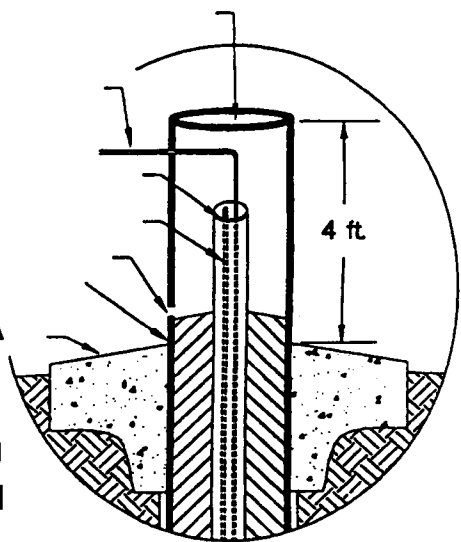
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CERTIFICATES OF  
ANALYSIS

**ATTACHMENT B1**  
**WELL TEST METHODS, DATA AND ANALYSIS**



## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

A short-term specific capacity pumping test was conducted in well DW-20 on October 28, 1997 to estimate the specific capacity of the well. The average pumping rate and total drawdown measured during the test and the specific capacity, estimated from the test are estimated from measurements taken during the test. This attachment describes field methods used to conduct the test, presents the data obtained from the test, and summarizes the analytical methods used to estimate specific capacity.

## 2.0 FIELD METHODS AND DATA

The short-term specific capacity pumping test of well DW-20 was conducted using a temporary 4-inch submersible pump. On the day of the pumping test the pump was turned on from approximately 11:36 AM to 13:07 PM to adjust the pumping rate. Pumping rate measurements were made using a calibrated bucket and stop watch. The water level was allowed to recover for about 7 minutes after the pump was turned off before capacity test was started. The pumping test was conducted from 13:14 to 16:27 PM, a total pumping period of 193 minutes. Recovery measurements were obtained, but were not useful data because the water from the pumping column drained into the well.

Water level measurements were made during the test using an electric water level meter. Depth to water measurements, the time of each measurement, and the drawdown, recovery, and residual drawdown calculated were recorded during the test.

## 3.0 EVALUATION OF DATA

The recorded pumping rates ranged from 13.5 to 22.5 gpm. For most of the test the pumping rate was 20 gpm. A maximum drawdown of 2.4 feet was observed after about 3 minutes of pumping. The water level observed during the rest of the test rose up to about a foot or more, despite the increases in pumping rates during the test. The reason for the rise in water levels is unclear, because it does not appear to coincide with the snowmelt that was occurring during the test. A possible explanation for the rise in water

levels is a decrease in pumping rate that occurred in the first few minutes of the test caused by the head loss associated with lifting water from the pumping water level to the ground surface. The first pumping rate measurement was made after approximately 3 minutes of pumping.

The water level rose to above the static water level during the recovery because the pump was not equipped with a check valve, which allowed water in the discharge pipe to flow back into the well.

#### **4.0 Specific Capacity**

According to Lohman (1972), specific capacity is equal to the pumping rate divided by the observed drawdown at a specified time during pumping. The drawdown observed at the end of the test (1.61 feet) was divided into the pumping rate measured at the end of the test (21 gpm) to obtain an estimated specific capacity of 13 gpm/foot for well DW-20.

### REFERENCES CITED

Lohman, S.W., 1972, Ground-Water Hydraulics: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 708, 70 p.

**APPENDIX C**  
**VALLEY FILL LEACH AREA No. 2**  
**CLOSURE PLAN**

**July 1995**

**Valley Fill Leach Area 2  
Plan and Compliance Schedule for Post-Closure Monitoring**

**1.0 General**

This plan and compliance schedule for Valley Fill Leach Area 2 (VF2) has been prepared to comply with the requirements of Section 5.0 of the March 12, 1992 Stipulation and Consent Order, Docket No. GW-90-03-A. This plan also supercedes all other similar descriptions and details that may have been submitted and/or discussed concerning the post-closure monitoring of VF2.

The requirements for ground water quality monitoring are applicable only to monitoring well MW-9.

**2.0 Closure Approval**

The closure of VF2 was conditionally approved by the Utah Department of Environmental Quality - Division of Water Quality in correspondence dated May 30, 1995. Item 8 of that correspondence required the preparation and submittal for approval of a post-closure monitoring plan. This fulfills that requirement.

**3.0 Facility Post-Closure Monitoring Plan and Schedule**

**3.1 Closure and Monitoring Schedule**

Physical closure of VF2 commenced in June 1995 with the conditional approval from the UDWQ dated May 30, 1995. The schedule called for the completion of all VF2 shaping, contouring, cover placement and seeding by October 1995. Long term physical, facility water, and ground water quality monitoring will continue, as described in Section 3.2, through the year 2002.

**3.2 Water Quality Monitoring**

Appendix A to Permit UGW450002 is the Water Quality Assurance - Quality Assurance/ Quality Control Plan (QA/QC Plan) developed for the Barrick Mercur Mine. All specific components related to the monitoring and reporting of water quality from the VF2 cistern, VF2 leakage collection system, or ground water quality monitoring well MW-9 can be found in Appendix A. Please note that the reporting of data to the UDWQ will be consolidated whenever possible.



### 3.2.1 Ground water

The ground water quality monitoring program involves only monitoring well MW-9 pursuant to the Stipulation and Consent Order. Details of this program can be found in Appendix A. A summary is as follows:

- Semi annual sampling & water elevation readings will be obtained through the life of the permit.
- Water quality analysis will be for water chemistry specified in Appendix A.
- Reports to UDWQ will be on a semiannual basis.

### 3.2.2 Facility

Facility water quality monitoring involves the sampling, analysis, and reporting of results for both the former operational cistern (if possible) and the leakage collection system. A summary is as follows:

#### 3.2.2.1 Former Production Cistern

- The former production cistern will be maintained as long as possible.
- Sampling for water quality will be performed, if possible, on a quarterly basis until the cistern is no longer functional. All sampling and analysis will be conducted pursuant to Appendix A, of the QA/QC Plan.
- Water quality analysis will be performed for total water chemistry.
- Flow readings will be made at the time that the former cistern is pumped down as long as the cistern is functional.
- Water quality and flow reporting will be made to the UDWQ on a quarterly basis or as long as there is data to report.
- All solutions from the former production cistern will be pumped to the tailing impoundment or the east bay.

#### 3.2.2.2 Leakage Collection Sysytem

- The system will be maintained in operational condition at least through 1999.

- UDWQ approval will be necessary prior to any sampling, monitoring, or reporting modifications or abandonment of the system.
- Sampling for water quality will be conducted on a quarterly basis.
- Water quality analysis will be performed for total water chemistry.
- Solution flow readings will be made bimonthly and reported to the UDWQ quarterly.
- All solutions from the leakage collection system will be pumped to either the concrete lined pond or the milling operation.

### 3.3 Facility Physical Monitoring

Post-closure physical monitoring will be principally designed to satisfy the requirements of the Utah Department of Natural Resources - Division of Oil, Gas & Mining (UDOGM) and the Utah Department of Environmental Quality - Division of Water Quality (UDWQ).

Monitoring of the revegetative effort is required by UDOGM for a minimum of three years or until adequate plant growth has been attained, is self-propagating, and is in accordance with the surety bond release provisions. Barrick anticipates successful demonstration of revegetative efforts will be demonstrated by June 1999.

Monitoring of facility stability, erosional impacts, and general security matters will be maintained until all Mercur site responsibilities have been accomplished by Barrick. Barrick currently anticipates a site presence at Mercur through 2002.

Long term physical monitoring of VF2 will generally consist of inspections for cap erosion, settlement, animal burrows, drainage ditch integrity, and plant growth. Immediate repairs will be undertaken as necessary to return the spent ore cover to the original post-closure conditions. The date for completion of all Mercur site reclamation activities is currently projected to be the year 2002.

Access to the closed and reclaimed VF2 will be limited under the current conceptual post-closure public access corridor plan. Barrick's conditional use permit with Tooele County and agreements with adjacent landowners will be refined prior to December 1997.

**APPENDIX D**  
**RESERVATION CANYON TAILING**  
**IMPOUNDMENT SITE CHARACTERIZATION**  
**AND FINAL CLOSURE DESIGN**

**July 30, 1999**

[On File]